



Northern  
Ireland  
Office

Police & Criminal Evidence  
(Northern Ireland) Order 1989  
(Article 65)

# Code of Practice H

2008





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Ireland  
Office

Police & Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989  
(Article 65)

# Code H

## **Code of Practice for the Detention, Treatment and Questioning of Persons under Section 41 of, and Schedule 8 to, the Terrorism Act 2000**

### **Commencement - Transitional Arrangements**

This code applies to people in police detention following their arrest under section 41 of the Terrorism Act 2000, after midnight on 9th November 2008, notwithstanding that they may have been arrested before that time.



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# 1 General

- 1.1 This Code of Practice applies to, and only to, persons arrested under section 41 of the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT) and detained in police custody under those provisions and Schedule 8 of the Act.
- 1.2 The Code ceases to apply at any point that a detainee is:
- (a) charged with an offence
  - (b) released without charge, or
  - (c) transferred to a prison. *See section 14.5.*
- 1.3 References to an offence in this Code include being concerned in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism.
- 1.4 This Code's provisions do not apply to detention of individuals under any other terrorism legislation. This Code does not apply to people:
- (i) detained under section 5(1) of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005.
  - (ii) detained for examination under the TACT Schedule 7 and to whom the Code of Practice issued under that Act, Schedule 14, paragraph 6 applies;
  - (iii) detained for searches under stop and search powers.
- The provisions for detention, treatment and questioning of persons by police officers other than those in police detention following arrest under section 41 are set out in Code C issued under Article 65 of the Police & Criminal Evidence (PACE) (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (PACE Code C).
- 1.5 All persons in custody must be dealt with expeditiously, and released as soon as the need for detention no longer applies.
- 1.6 There is no provision for bail under TACT prior to charge.
- 1.7 An officer must perform the functions in this Code as soon as practicable. An officer will not be in breach of this Code if delay is justifiable and reasonable steps are taken to prevent unnecessary delay. The custody record shall show when a delay has occurred and the reason. *See Note 1H.*

- 1.8 This Code of Practice must be readily available at all police stations for consultation by:
- police officers
  - police staff
  - detained persons
  - members of the public.
- 1.9 The provisions of this Code:
- include the Annexes
  - do not include the Notes for Guidance.
- 1.10 If an officer has any suspicion, or is told in good faith, that a person of any age may be mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, in the absence of clear evidence to dispel that suspicion, the person shall be treated as such for the purposes of this Code. *See Note 1G.*
- 1.11 For the purposes of this Code, a juvenile is any person under the age of 17. If anyone appears to be under 17, and there is no clear evidence that they are 17 or over, they shall be treated as a juvenile for the purposes of this Code.
- 1.12 If a person appears to be blind, seriously visually impaired, deaf, unable to read or speak or has difficulty orally because of a speech impediment, they shall be treated as such for the purposes of this Code in the absence of clear evidence to the contrary.
- 1.13 'The appropriate adult' means, in the case of a:
- (a) juvenile:
- (i) the parent, relative, guardian or, if the juvenile is in care, a member of a care authority, or voluntary organisation;
  - (ii) a social worker;
  - (iii) failing these, some other responsible adult aged 18 or over who is not a police officer or employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board.
- (b) person who is mentally disordered or mentally vulnerable: *See Note 1D.*
- (i) a parent, relative, guardian or other person responsible for their care or custody;

- (ii) someone experienced in dealing with mentally disordered or mentally vulnerable people but who is not a police officer or employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board;
  - (iii) failing these, some other responsible adult aged 18 or over who is not a police officer or employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board.
- 1.14 If this Code requires a person be given certain information, they do not have to be given it if at the time they are incapable of understanding what is said, are violent or may become violent or in urgent need of medical attention, but they must be given it as soon as practicable.
- 1.15 References to a custody officer include any:-
- police officer; or
  - designated staff custody officer acting in the exercise or performance of the powers and duties conferred or imposed on them by their designation, performing the functions of a custody officer.
- 1.16 When this Code requires the prior authority or agreement of an officer of at least inspector or superintendent rank, that authority may be given by a sergeant or chief inspector authorised under Article 84 of PACE to perform the functions of the higher rank under TACT.
- 1.17 In this Code:
- (a) ‘designated person’ means a person other than a police officer, designated under the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2003, Part 2 who has specified powers and duties of police officers conferred or imposed on them;
  - (b) reference to a police officer includes a designated person acting in the exercise or performance of the powers and duties conferred or imposed on them by their designation.
- 1.18 Designated persons are entitled to use reasonable force as follows:-
- (a) when exercising a power conferred on them which allows a police officer exercising that power to use reasonable force, a designated person has the same entitlement to use force; and

(b) at other times when carrying out duties conferred or imposed on them that also entitle them to use reasonable force, for example:

- when at a police station carrying out the duty to keep detainees for whom they are responsible under control and to assist any other police officer or designated person to keep any detainee under control and to prevent their escape;
- when securing, or assisting any other police officer or designated person in securing, the detention of a person at a police station;
- when escorting, or assisting any other police officer or designated person in escorting, a detainee within a police station;
- for the purpose of saving life or limb; or
- preventing serious damage to property.

1.19 Nothing in this Code prevents the custody officer, or other officer given custody of the detainee, from allowing police staff who are not designated persons to carry out individual procedures or tasks at the police station if the law allows. However, the officer remains responsible for making sure the procedures and tasks are carried out correctly in accordance with the Codes of Practice. Any such person must be:

- (a) a person employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board and under the control and direction of the Chief Constable;
- (b) employed by a person with whom the Northern Ireland Policing Board has a contract for the provision of services relating to persons arrested or otherwise in custody.

1.20 Designated persons and other police staff must have regard to any relevant provisions of this Code.

1.21 References to the officer's official note book include any official report book issued to police officers or other police staff.

### Notes for guidance

1A Although certain sections of this Code apply specifically to people in custody at police stations, those there voluntarily to assist with an investigation should be treated with no less consideration, e.g. offered refreshments at appropriate times, and enjoy an absolute right to obtain legal advice or communicate with anyone outside the police station.

- 1AA On arrival at the police station, the appropriate adult should be provided with written guidance as to their role.
- 1B A person, including a parent or guardian, should not be an appropriate adult if they:
- are
    - suspected of involvement in the offence or involvement in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism
    - the victim
    - a witness
    - involved in the investigation
  - appear to be mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable
  - received admissions prior to attending to act as the appropriate adult.
- Note:** A parent of a juvenile should not be asked to act as the appropriate adult if the juvenile expressly and specifically objects to their presence.
- 1C If a juvenile admits an offence to, or in the presence of, a social worker other than during the time that person is acting as the juvenile's appropriate adult, another appropriate adult should be appointed in the interest of fairness.
- 1D In the case of people who are mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, it may be more satisfactory if the appropriate adult is someone experienced or trained in their care rather than a relative lacking such qualifications. But if the detainee prefers a relative to a better qualified stranger or objects to a particular person their wishes should, if practicable, be respected.
- 1E A detainee should always be given an opportunity, when an appropriate adult is called to the police station, to consult privately with a solicitor in the appropriate adult's absence if they want. An appropriate adult is not subject to legal privilege.
- 1F A solicitor or independent custody visitor (formerly a lay visitor) present at the police station in that capacity may not be the appropriate adult.
- 1G 'Mentally vulnerable' applies to any detainee who, because of their mental state or capacity, may not understand the significance of what is said, of questions or of their replies. 'Mental disorder' is defined in Article 3(1) of the Mental Health (NI) Order 1986 as 'mental illness, mental handicap and any other disorder or disability of mind'. When the custody officer has any doubt

about the mental state or capacity of a detainee, that detainee should be treated as mentally vulnerable and an appropriate adult called.

- 1H Paragraph 1.7 is intended to cover delays which may occur in processing detainees e.g. if:
- a large number of suspects are brought into the station simultaneously to be placed in custody;
  - interview rooms are all being used;
  - there are difficulties contacting an appropriate adult, solicitor or interpreter.
- 1I The custody officer must remind the appropriate adult and detainee about the right to legal advice and record any reasons for waiving it in accordance with section 6.
- 1J This Code does not affect the principle that all citizens have a duty to help police officers to prevent crime and discover offenders. This is a civic rather than a legal duty; but when a police officer is trying to discover whether, or by whom, an offence has been committed he is entitled to question any person from whom he thinks useful information can be obtained, subject to the restrictions imposed by this Code. A person's declaration that he is unwilling to reply does not alter this entitlement.
- 1K If a person is moved from a police station to receive medical treatment, or for any other reason, the period of detention is still calculated from the time of arrest under section 41 of TACT (or, if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7 when arrested, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began).

## 2 Custody records

- 2.1 When a person is brought to a police station:
- under TACT section 41 arrest, or
  - is arrested under TACT section 41 at the police station having attended there voluntarily,
- they should be brought before the custody officer as soon as practicable after their arrival at the station or, if appropriate, following arrest after attending the police station voluntarily. A person is deemed to be "at a police station" for these purposes if they are within the boundary of any building or enclosed yard which forms part of that police station.

- 2.2 A separate custody record must be opened as soon as practicable for each person brought to a police station under arrest or arrested at the station having gone there voluntarily. All information recorded under this Code must be recorded as soon as practicable in the custody record unless otherwise specified. Any audio or video recording made in the custody area is not part of the custody record.
- 2.3 If any action requires the authority of an officer of a specified rank, their name and rank must be noted in the custody record, subject to paragraph 2.8.
- 2.4 The custody officer is responsible for the custody record's accuracy and completeness and for making sure the record or copy of the record accompanies a detainee if they are transferred to another police station. The record shall show the:
- time and reason for transfer;
  - time a person is released from detention.
- 2.5 A solicitor or appropriate adult must be permitted to consult a detainee's custody record as soon as practicable after their arrival at the station and at any other time whilst the person is detained. Arrangements for this access must be agreed with the custody officer and may not unreasonably interfere with the custody officer's duties or the justifiable needs of the investigation.
- 2.6 When a detainee leaves police detention or is taken before a court they, their legal representative or appropriate adult shall be given, on request, a copy of the custody record as soon as practicable. This entitlement lasts for 12 months after release.
- 2.7 The detainee, appropriate adult or legal representative shall be permitted to inspect the original custody record after the detainee has left police detention under the provisions of TACT, provided they give reasonable notice of their request. Any such inspection shall be noted in the custody record.
- 2.8 All entries in custody records must be timed and identified by the maker. Nothing in this Code requires the identity of officers or other police staff to be recorded or disclosed in the case of enquiries linked to the investigation of terrorism. In these cases, they shall use their police service identification number and the name of their police station. See *Note 2A*. Records entered on computer shall also be timed and contain the operator's identification.

- 2.9 The fact and time of any detainee's refusal to sign a custody record, when asked in accordance with this Code, must be recorded.

### Note for guidance

- 2A The purpose of paragraph 2.8 is to protect those involved in terrorist investigations or arrests of terrorist suspects from the possibility that those arrested, their associates or other individuals or groups may threaten or cause harm to those involved.

## 3 Initial action

### (a) Detained persons - normal procedure

- 3.1 When a person is brought to a police station under arrest or arrested at the station having gone there voluntarily, the custody officer must make sure the person is told clearly about the following continuing rights which may be exercised at any stage during the period in custody:
- (i) the right to have someone informed of their arrest as in section 5;
  - (ii) the right to consult privately with a solicitor and that independent legal advice is available;
  - (iii) the right to consult this Code of Practice. *See Note 3D.*
- 3.2 The detainee must also be given:
- a written notice setting out:
    - the above three rights;
    - the arrangements for obtaining legal advice;
    - the right to a copy of the custody record as in paragraph 2.6;
    - the caution in the terms prescribed in section 10.
  - an additional written notice briefly setting out their entitlements while in custody. *See Notes 3A and 3B.*
- Note:** The detainee shall be asked to sign the custody record to acknowledge receipt of these notices. Any refusal must be recorded on the custody record.
- 3.3 A citizen of an independent Commonwealth country or a national of a foreign country, including the Republic of Ireland, must be informed as soon as practicable about their rights of communication with their High Commission, Embassy or Consulate. *See section 7.*

3.4 The custody officer shall:

- record that the person was arrested under section 41 of TACT and the reason(s) for the arrest on the custody record. *See paragraph 10.2 and Note 3F;*
- note on the custody record any comment the detainee makes in relation to the arresting officer's account but shall not invite comment. If the arresting officer is not physically present when the detainee is brought to a police station, the arresting officer's account must be made available to the custody officer remotely or by a third party on the arresting officer's behalf;
- note any comment the detainee makes in respect of the decision to detain them but shall not invite comment;
- not put specific questions to the detainee regarding their involvement in any offence, nor in respect of any comments they may make in response to the arresting officer's account or the decision to place them in detention. *See paragraphs 14.1 and 14.2 and Notes for Guidance 3F, 14A and 14B.* Such an exchange is likely to constitute an interview as in paragraph 11.1 and require the associated safeguards in section 11.

3.5 The custody officer shall:

- (a) ask the detainee, whether at this time, they:
  - (i) would like legal advice, *see section 6;*
  - (ii) want someone informed of their detention, *see section 5;*
- (b) ask the detainee to sign the custody record to confirm their decisions in respect of (a);
- (c) determine whether the detainee:
  - (i) is, or might be, in need of medical treatment or attention, *see section 9;*
  - (ii) requires:
    - an appropriate adult;
    - help to check documentation;
    - an interpreter;
- (d) record the decision in respect of (c).

3.6 When determining these needs the custody officer is responsible for initiating an assessment to consider whether the detainee is likely to present specific risks to custody staff, any individual who may have contact with the detainee

(e.g. legal advisers, medical staff), or themselves. Such assessments should always include a check on the established police criminal intelligence system, to be carried out as soon as practicable, to identify any risks highlighted in relation to the detainee. Although such assessments are primarily the custody officer's responsibility, it will be necessary to obtain information from other sources, especially the investigation team, *see Note 3E*, the arresting officer or a forensic medical officer, *see paragraph 9.15*. Reasons for delaying the initiation or completion of the assessment must be recorded.

- 3.7 The Chief Constable should ensure that arrangements for proper and effective risk assessments required by paragraph 3.6 are implemented in respect of all detainees at police stations.
- 3.8 Risk assessments must follow a structured process which clearly defines the categories of risk to be considered and the results must be incorporated in the detainee's custody record. The custody officer is responsible for making sure those responsible for the detainee's custody are appropriately briefed about the risks. The content of any risk assessment and any analysis of the level of risk relating to the person's detention is not required to be shown or provided to the detainee or any person acting on behalf of the detainee. If no specific risks are identified by the assessment, this should be noted in the custody record. *See paragraph 9.15*.
- 3.9 Custody officers are responsible for implementing the response to any specific risk assessment, which should include for example:
  - reducing opportunities for self harm;
  - calling a forensic medical officer;
  - increasing levels of monitoring or observation;
  - reducing the risk to those who come into contact with the detainee.
- 3.10 Risk assessment is an ongoing process and assessments must always be subject to review if circumstances change.
- 3.11 If video and audio recording is in operation in the custody area, notices shall be prominently displayed showing equipment is in use. Any request to have the equipment switched off shall be refused.
- 3.12 A constable, prison officer or other person authorised by the Secretary of State may take any steps which are reasonably necessary for
  - (a) photographing the detained person

- (b) measuring him, or
- (c) identifying him.

3.13 Paragraph 3.12 concerns the power in TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 2. This power does not include the taking of fingerprints, intimate samples or non-intimate samples, which is covered in TACT Schedule 8 paragraphs 10-15. Further guidance on identification can be found in PACE Code D – Code of Practice for the Identification of Persons by Police Officers.

### **(b) Detained persons - special groups**

- 3.14 If the detainee appears deaf or there is doubt about their hearing or speaking ability or ability to understand English, and the custody officer cannot establish effective communication, the custody officer must, as soon as practicable, call an interpreter for assistance in the action under paragraphs 3.1–3.5. See *section 13*.
- 3.15 If the detainee is a juvenile, the custody officer must, if it is practicable, ascertain the identity of a person responsible for their welfare. That person:
- may be:
    - the parent or guardian;
    - if the juvenile is in care, a member of a care authority, or voluntary organisation, or a person appointed by that authority or organisation to have responsibility for the juvenile's welfare;
    - any other person who has, for the time being, assumed responsibility for the juvenile's welfare.
  - must be informed as soon as practicable that the juvenile has been arrested, why they have been arrested and where they are detained. This right is in addition to the juvenile's right in section 5 not to be held incommunicado. See *Note 3C*.
- 3.16 If a juvenile is known to be subject to a court order under which a person or organisation is given any degree of statutory responsibility to supervise or otherwise monitor them, reasonable steps must also be taken to notify that person or organisation.
- 3.17 If the detainee is a juvenile, mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, the custody officer must, as soon as practicable:
- inform the appropriate adult, who in the case of a juvenile may or may not be a person responsible for their welfare, as in paragraph 3.15, of:

- the grounds for their detention;
  - their whereabouts.
  - ask the adult to come to the police station to see the detainee.
- 3.18 If the appropriate adult is:
- already at the police station, the provisions of paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5 must be complied with in the appropriate adult's presence;
  - not at the station when these provisions are complied with, they must be complied with again in the presence of the appropriate adult when they arrive.
- 3.19 The detainee shall be advised that:
- the duties of the appropriate adult include giving advice and assistance;
  - they can consult privately with the appropriate adult at any time.
- 3.20 If the detainee, or appropriate adult on the detainee's behalf, asks for a solicitor to be called to give legal advice, the provisions of section 6 apply.
- 3.21 If the detainee is blind, seriously visually impaired or unable to read, the custody officer shall make sure their solicitor, relative, appropriate adult or some other person likely to take an interest in them and not involved in the investigation is available to help check any documentation. When this Code requires written consent or signing the person assisting may be asked to sign instead, if the detainee prefers. This paragraph does not require an appropriate adult to be called solely to assist in checking and signing documentation for a person who is not a juvenile, or mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable. See *paragraph 3.17*.

### **(c) Documentation**

- 3.22 The grounds for a person's detention shall be recorded, in the person's presence if practicable.
- 3.23 Action taken under paragraphs 3.14 to 3.21 shall be recorded.

### **Notes for guidance**

- 3A The notice of entitlements should:
- list the entitlements in this Code, including:
    - visits and contact with outside parties, including special provisions for Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals;
    - reasonable standards of physical comfort;

- adequate food and drink;
  - access to toilets and washing facilities, clothing, medical attention, and exercise when practicable.
  - mention the:
    - provisions relating to the conduct of interviews;
    - circumstances in which an appropriate adult should be available to assist the detainee and their statutory rights to make representation whenever the period of their detention is reviewed.
- 3B In addition to notices in English, translations should be available in the main minority ethnic languages and the principal European languages and other languages commonly spoken in the locality, whenever they are likely to be helpful. Audio versions of the notice should also be made available.
- 3C If the juvenile is in the care of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety or a Health and Social Services Board but is living with his parents or other adults responsible for his welfare then, although there is no legal obligation to inform them, they as well as the Department or Board should normally be contacted unless suspected of involvement in the offence concerned. Even if the juvenile is not living with their parents, consideration should be given to informing them as well.
- 3D The right to consult this or other relevant Codes of Practice does not entitle the person concerned to delay unreasonably any necessary investigative or administrative action whilst they do so. Examples of action which need not be delayed unreasonably include:
- searching detainees at the police station;
  - taking fingerprints or non-intimate samples without consent for evidential purposes.
- 3E The investigation team will include any officer involved in questioning a suspect, gathering or analysing evidence in relation to the offences of which the detainee is suspected of having committed. Should a custody officer require information from the investigation team, the first point of contact should be the officer in charge of the investigation.
- 3F Arrests under TACT section 41 can only be made where an officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that the individual concerned is a “terrorist”. This differs from the PACE power of arrest in that it need not be linked to a specific offence. There may also be circumstances where an arrest under TACT is made on the grounds of sensitive information which can not be disclosed. In

such circumstances, the grounds for arrest may be given in terms of the interpretation of a “terrorist” set out in TACT sections 40(1) (a) or 40(1) (b).

- 3G For the purpose of arrests under TACT section 41, the review officer is responsible for authorising detention. *See Paragraphs 14.1 and 14.2, and Notes for Guidance 14A and 14B.* The review officer’s role is explained in TACT Schedule 8 Part II. A person may be detained after arrest pending the first review, which must take place as soon as practicable after the person’s arrest.

## 4 Detainee’s property

### (a) Action

- 4.1 The custody officer is responsible for:

- (a) ascertaining what property a detainee:
  - (i) has with them when they come to the police station, either on first arrival at the police station or any subsequent arrivals at a police station in connection with that detention.
  - (ii) might have acquired for an unlawful or harmful purpose while in custody;
- (b) the safekeeping of any property taken from a detainee which remains at the police station.

The custody officer may search the detainee or authorise their being searched to the extent they consider necessary, provided a search of intimate parts of the body or involving the removal of more than outer clothing is only made as in Annex A. A search may only be carried out by an officer of the same sex as the detainee. *See Note 4A.*

- 4.2 Detainees may retain clothing and personal effects at their own risk unless the custody officer considers they may use them to cause harm to themselves or others, interfere with evidence, damage property, effect an escape or they are needed as evidence. In this event the custody officer may withhold such articles as they consider necessary and must tell the detainee why. *See Note 4C.*
- 4.3 Personal effects are those items a detainee may lawfully need, use or refer to while in detention but do not include cash and other items of value.

### **(b) Documentation**

- 4.4 It is a matter for the custody officer to determine whether a record should be made of the property a detained person has with him or had taken from him on arrest. See *Notes 4B to 4D*. Any record made is not required to be kept as part of the custody record but the custody record should be noted as to where such a record exists. Whenever a record is made the detainee shall be allowed to check and sign the record of property as correct. Any refusal to sign shall be recorded.
- 4.5 If a detainee is not allowed to keep any article of clothing or personal effects, the reason must be recorded. See *Note 4C*.

### **Notes for guidance**

- 4A PACE, Article 55(1) and paragraph 4.1 require a detainee to be searched when it is clear the custody officer will have continuing duties in relation to that detainee or when that detainee's behaviour or offence makes an inventory appropriate. They do not require every detainee to be searched, e.g. if it is clear a person will only be detained for a short period and is not to be placed in a cell, the custody officer may decide not to search them. In such a case the custody record will be endorsed 'not searched', paragraph 4.4 will not apply, and the detainee will be invited to sign the entry. If the detainee refuses, the custody officer will be obliged to ascertain what property they have in accordance with paragraph 4.1.
- 4B Paragraph 4.4 does not require the custody officer to record on the custody record property in the detainee's possession on arrest if, by virtue of its nature, quantity or size, it is not practicable to remove it to the police station.
- 4C Paragraph 4.4 does not require items of clothing worn by the person to be recorded unless withheld by the custody officer as in paragraph 4.2.
- 4D Section 43(2) of TACT allows a constable to search a person who has been arrested under section 41 to discover whether he has anything in his possession that may constitute evidence that he is a terrorist.

## 5 Right not to be held incommunicado

### (a) Action

- 5.1 Any person arrested and held in custody at a police station or other premises may, on request, have one named person who is a friend, relative or a person known to them who is likely to take an interest in their welfare informed at public expense of their whereabouts as soon as practicable. If the person cannot be contacted the detainee may choose up to two alternatives. If they cannot be contacted, the person in charge of detention or the investigation has discretion to allow further attempts until the information has been conveyed. *See Notes 5D and 5E.*
- 5.2 The exercise of the above right in respect of each person nominated may be delayed only in accordance with Annex B.
- 5.3 The above right may be exercised each time a detainee is taken to another police station or returned to a police station having been previously transferred to prison. This Code does not afford such a right to a person on transfer to a prison, where a detainee's rights will be governed by Prison Rules. *See paragraph 14.8.*
- 5.4 If the detainee agrees, they may receive visits at the custody officer's discretion. Custody Officers should liaise closely with the investigation team (*see Note 3E*) to allow risk assessments to be made where particular visitors have been requested by the detainee or identified themselves to police. In circumstances where the nature of the investigation means that such requests can not be met, consideration should be given to notifying the independent custody visitor scheme of this. *See Note 5B and 5C.*
- 5.5 If a friend, relative or person with an interest in the detainee's welfare enquires about their whereabouts, this information shall be given if the suspect agrees and Annex B does not apply. *See Note 5E.*
- 5.6 The detainee shall be given writing materials, on request, and allowed to telephone one person for a reasonable time. *See Notes 5A and 5F.* Either or both these privileges may be denied or delayed if an officer of inspector rank or above considers sending a letter or making a telephone call may result in any of the consequences in Annex B paragraphs 1 and 2, particularly in relation to the making of a telephone call in a language which an officer listening to the call (*see paragraph 5.7*) does not understand. *See Note 5G.*

Nothing in this paragraph permits the restriction or denial of the rights in paragraphs 5.1 and 6.1.

- 5.7 Before any letter or message is sent, or telephone call made, the detainee shall be informed that what they say in any letter, call or message (other than in a communication to a solicitor) may be read or listened to and may be given in evidence. A telephone call may be terminated if it is being abused. See *Note 5G*. The costs can be at public expense at the custody officer's discretion.
- 5.8 Any delay or denial of the rights in this section should be proportionate and should last no longer than necessary.

### **(b) Documentation**

- 5.9 A record must be kept of any:
- (a) request made under this section and the action taken;
  - (b) letters, messages or telephone calls made or received or visit received;
  - (c) refusal by the detainee to have information about them given to an outside enquirer. The detainee must be asked to countersign the record accordingly and any refusal recorded.

### **Notes for guidance**

- 5A A person may request an interpreter to interpret a telephone call or translate a letter.
- 5B At the custody officer's discretion, visits should be allowed when possible, subject to having sufficient personnel to supervise a visit and any possible hindrance to the investigation. Custody Officers should bear in mind the exceptional nature of prolonged TACT detention and consider the potential benefits that visits may bring to the health and welfare of detainees who are held for extended periods.
- 5C Official visitors should be given access following consultation with the officer who has overall responsibility for the investigation provided they do not compromise safety or security or unduly delay or interfere with the progress of an investigation. Official visitors should still be required to provide appropriate identification and be subject to any screening process in place at the place of detention. Official visitors may include:

- An accredited faith representative
  - Members of either House of Parliament
  - Public officials needing to interview the prisoner in the course of their duties
  - Members of the Independent Custody Visitors Scheme
  - Other persons visiting with the approval of the officer who has overall responsibility for the investigation
  - Consular officials visiting a detainee who is a national of the country they represent, subject to Annex F.
- 5D If the detainee does not know anyone to contact for advice or support or cannot contact a friend or relative, the custody officer should bear in mind any local voluntary bodies or other organisations that might be able to help. Paragraph 6.1 applies if legal advice is required.
- 5E In some circumstances it may not be appropriate to use the telephone to disclose information under paragraphs 5.1 and 5.5.
- 5F The telephone call at paragraph 5.6 is in addition to any communication under paragraphs 5.1 and 6.1. Further calls may be made at the custody officer's discretion.
- 5G The nature of terrorism investigations means that officers should have particular regard to the possibility of suspects attempting to pass information which may be detrimental to public safety, or to an investigation.

## 6 Right to legal advice

### (a) Action

- 6.1 Unless Annex B applies, all detainees must be informed that they may at any time consult and communicate privately with a solicitor, whether in person, in writing or by telephone. *See paragraph 3.1, Note 6B and Note 6H.*
- 6.2 A poster advertising the right to legal advice must be prominently displayed in the charging area of every police station. *See Note 6F.*
- 6.3 No police officer or police staff should, at any time, do or say anything with the intention of dissuading a detainee from obtaining legal advice.
- 6.4 The exercise of the right of access to legal advice may be delayed exceptionally only as in Annex B. Whenever legal advice is requested, and

unless Annex B applies, the custody officer must act without delay to secure the provision of such advice. If, on being informed or reminded of this right, the detainee declines to speak to a solicitor in person, the officer should point out that the right includes the right to speak with a solicitor on the telephone. *See paragraph 5.6.* If the detainee continues to waive this right the officer should ask them why and any reasons should be recorded on the custody record or the interview record as appropriate. Reminders of the right to legal advice must be given as in paragraphs 3.5, 11.3, and the PACE Code D on the Identification of Persons by Police Officers (PACE Code D), paragraphs 3.17(ii) and 6.3. Once it is clear a detainee does not want to speak to a solicitor in person or by telephone they should cease to be asked their reasons. *See Note 6I.*

- 6.5 An officer of at least the rank of Assistant Chief Constable may give a direction under TACT Schedule 8 paragraph 9 that a detainee may only consult a solicitor within the sight and hearing of a qualified officer. Such a direction may only be given if the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that if it were not, it may result in one of the consequences set out in TACT Schedule 8 paragraphs 8(4) or 8(5)(c). *See Annex B paragraph 3 and Note 6H.* A “qualified officer” means a police officer who:
- (a) is at least the rank of inspector;
  - (b) is of the uniformed branch of the force of which the officer giving the direction is a member; and
  - (c) in the opinion of the officer giving the direction, has no connection with the detained person’s case.
- 6.6 In the case of a juvenile, an appropriate adult should consider whether legal advice from a solicitor is required. If the juvenile indicates that they do not want legal advice, the appropriate adult has the right to ask for a solicitor to attend if this would be in the best interests of the person. However, the detained person cannot be forced to see the solicitor if he is adamant that he does not wish to do so.
- 6.7 A detainee who wants legal advice may not be interviewed or continue to be interviewed until they have received such advice unless:
- (a) Annex B applies, when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence in Annex C will apply because the detainee is not allowed an opportunity to consult a solicitor; or

- (b) an officer of superintendent rank or above has reasonable grounds for believing that:
- (i) the consequent delay might:
    - lead to interference with, or harm to, evidence connected with an offence;
    - lead to interference with, or physical harm to, other people;
    - lead to serious loss of, or damage to, property;
    - lead to alerting other people suspected of having committed an offence but not yet arrested for it;
    - hinder the recovery of property obtained in consequence of the commission of an offence.
  - (ii) when a solicitor has been contacted and has agreed to attend, awaiting their arrival would cause unreasonable delay to the process of investigation. *See Note 6A.*

**Note:** In these cases the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence (see *Annex C*) will apply because the detainee is not allowed an opportunity to consult a solicitor.

- (c) the solicitor the detainee has nominated or selected from a list:
- (i) cannot be contacted;
  - (ii) has previously indicated they do not wish to be contacted; or
  - (iii) having been contacted, has declined to attend; and

the detainee has been given the opportunity to select an alternative solicitor but has declined.

In these circumstances the interview may be started or continued without further delay provided an officer of inspector rank or above has agreed to the interview proceeding.

**Note:** The restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence in Annex C will not apply because the detainee has been given the opportunity to consult an alternative solicitor;

- (d) the detainee changes their mind, about wanting legal advice.

In these circumstances the interview may be started or continued without delay provided that:

- (i) the detainee agrees to do so, in writing or on the interview record made in accordance with the Code of Practice issued under TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 3; and
- (ii) an officer of inspector rank or above has inquired about the detainee's reasons for their change of mind and gives authority for the interview to proceed.

Confirmation of the detainee's agreement, their change of mind, the reasons for it if given and, subject to paragraph 2.8, the name of the authorising officer shall be recorded in the written interview record or the interview record made in accordance with the Code of Practice issued under TACT Schedule 8, paragraph 3. *See Note 6G.*

**Note:** In these circumstances the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence (*see Annex C*) will not apply because the detainee is allowed an opportunity to consult a solicitor if they wish.

- 6.8 If paragraph 6.7(a) applies, where the reason for authorising the delay ceases to apply there may be no further delay in permitting the exercise of the right in the absence of a further authorisation unless paragraph 6.7 (b), (c) or (d) applies.
- 6.9 A detainee who has been permitted to consult a solicitor shall be entitled on request to have the solicitor present when they are interviewed unless one of the exceptions in paragraph 6.7 applies.
- 6.10 The solicitor may only be required to leave the interview if their conduct is such that the interviewer is unable properly to put questions to the suspect. *See Notes 6C and 6D.*
- 6.11 If the interviewer considers a solicitor is acting in such a way, they will stop the interview and consult an officer not below superintendent rank, if one is readily available, and otherwise an officer not below inspector rank not connected with the investigation. After speaking to the solicitor, the officer consulted will decide if the interview should continue in the presence of that solicitor. If they decide it should not, the suspect will be given the opportunity

to consult another solicitor before the interview continues and that solicitor given an opportunity to be present at the interview. *See Note 6D.*

- 6.12 The removal of a solicitor from an interview is a serious step and, if it occurs, the officer of superintendent rank or above who took the decision will consider if the incident should be reported to the Law Society. If the decision to remove the solicitor has been taken by an officer below superintendent rank, the facts must be reported to an officer of superintendent rank or above who will similarly consider whether a report to the Law Society would be appropriate.
- 6.13 In this Code ‘solicitor’ means a solicitor qualified to practice in accordance with the Solicitors (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 or the Solicitors Act 1974.
- 6.14 If a solicitor arrives at the station to see a particular person, that person must, unless Annex B applies, be so informed whether or not they are being interviewed and asked if they would like to see the solicitor. This applies even if the detainee has declined legal advice or, having requested it, subsequently agreed to be interviewed without receiving advice. The solicitor’s attendance and the detainee’s decision must be noted in the custody record. The person shall be asked to sign the custody record to confirm his decision. The custody officer shall note any refusal to do so on the custody record.

### **(b) Documentation**

- 6.15 Any request for legal advice and the action taken shall be recorded.
- 6.16 A record shall be made in the interview record if a detainee asks for legal advice and an interview is begun either in the absence of a solicitor or their representative, or they have been required to leave an interview.

### **Notes for guidance**

- 6A If paragraph 6.7(b) applies, the officer should, if practicable, ask the solicitor for an estimate of how long it will take to come to the station and relate this to the time detention is permitted, the time of day (i.e. whether the rest period under paragraph 12.2 is imminent) and the requirements of other investigations. If the solicitor is on their way or is to set off immediately, it will not normally be appropriate to begin an interview before they arrive. If it appears necessary to begin an interview before the solicitor’s arrival, they should be given an indication of how long the police would be able to wait so

there is an opportunity to make arrangements for someone else to provide legal advice. Nothing within this section is intended to prevent police from ascertaining immediately after the arrest of an individual whether a threat to public safety exists. *See para 11.2.*

- 6B A detainee who asks for legal advice should be given an opportunity to consult a specific solicitor or another solicitor from that solicitor's firm. If advice is not available by these means, the detainee should be given an opportunity to choose a solicitor from a list of those willing to provide legal advice. If this solicitor is unavailable, they may choose up to two alternatives. If these attempts are unsuccessful, the custody officer has discretion to allow further attempts until a solicitor has been contacted and agrees to provide legal advice. Apart from carrying out these duties, an officer must not advise the suspect about any particular firm of solicitors.
- 6C A detainee has a right to legal advice and to be represented by a solicitor. The solicitor's only role in the police station is to protect and advance the legal rights of their client. On occasions this may require the solicitor to give advice which has the effect of the client avoiding giving evidence which strengthens a prosecution case. The solicitor may intervene in order to seek clarification, challenge an improper question to their client or the manner in which it is put, advise their client not to reply to particular questions, or if they wish to give their client further legal advice. Paragraph 6.10 only applies if the solicitor's approach or conduct prevents or unreasonably obstructs proper questions being put to the suspect or the suspect's response being recorded. Examples of unacceptable conduct include answering questions on a suspect's behalf or providing written replies for the suspect to quote.
- 6D An officer who takes the decision to exclude a solicitor must be in a position to satisfy the court the decision was properly made. In order to do this they may need to witness what is happening.
- 6E Subject to the constraints of Annex B, a solicitor may advise more than one client in an investigation if they wish. Any question of a conflict of interest is for the solicitor under their professional code of conduct. If, however, waiting for a solicitor to give advice to one client may lead to unreasonable delay to the interview with another, the provisions of paragraph 6.7(b) may apply.
- 6F In addition to a poster in English, a poster or posters containing translations into the main minority ethnic languages and the principal European languages

and any other languages commonly spoken in the locality should be displayed wherever they are likely to be helpful and it is practicable to do so.

6G Paragraph 6.7(d) requires the authorisation of an officer of inspector rank or above to the continuation of an interview when a detainee who wanted legal advice changes their mind. It is permissible for such authorisation to be given over the telephone, if the authorising officer is able to satisfy themselves about the reason for the detainee's change of mind and is satisfied it is proper to continue the interview in those circumstances.

6H Whenever a detainee exercises their right to legal advice by consulting or communicating with a solicitor, they must be allowed to do so in private. This right to consult or communicate in private is fundamental. Except as allowed by TACT, Schedule 8, paragraph 9, if the requirement for privacy is compromised because what is said or written by the detainee or solicitor for the purpose of giving and receiving legal advice is overheard, listened to, or read by others without the informed consent of the detainee, the right will effectively have been denied. When a detainee chooses to speak to a solicitor on the telephone, they should be allowed to do so in private unless a direction under Schedule 8, paragraph 9 of TACT has been given or this is impractical because of the design and layout of the custody area, or the location of telephones. However, the normal expectation should be that facilities will be available, unless they are being used, at all police stations to enable detainees to speak in private to a solicitor either face to face or over the telephone.

6I A detainee is not obliged to give reasons for declining legal advice and should not be pressed to do so.

6J When the detainee is a juvenile, the custody officer should emphasise their right to and the importance of legal advice and that such legal advice can be made available quickly.

## **7 Citizens of independent Commonwealth countries or foreign nationals**

### **(a) Action**

7.1 Any citizen of an independent Commonwealth country or a national of a foreign country, including the Republic of Ireland, may communicate at any

time with the appropriate High Commission, Embassy or Consulate. The detainee must be informed as soon as practicable of:

- this right;
- their right, upon request, to have their High Commission, Embassy or Consulate told of their whereabouts and the grounds for their detention. Such a request should be acted upon as soon as practicable.

- 7.2 If a detainee is a citizen of a country with which a bilateral consular convention or agreement is in force requiring notification of arrest, the appropriate High Commission, Embassy or Consulate shall be informed as soon as practicable, subject to paragraph 7.4. The countries to which this applies as at 1 April 2003 are listed in Annex F.
- 7.3 Consular officers may visit one of their nationals in police detention to talk to them and, if required, to arrange for legal advice. Such visits shall take place out of the hearing of a police officer.
- 7.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of consular conventions, if the detainee is a political refugee whether for reasons of race, nationality, political opinion or religion, or is seeking political asylum, consular officers shall not be informed of the arrest of one of their nationals or given access or information about them except at the detainee's express request.

### **(b) Documentation**

- 7.5 A record shall be made when a detainee is informed of their rights under this section and of any communications with a High Commission, Embassy or Consulate.

### **Note for guidance**

- 7A The exercise of the rights in this section may not be interfered with even though Annex B applies.

## **8 Conditions of detention**

### **(a) Action**

- 8.1 So far as is practicable, not more than one detainee should be detained in each cell.

- 8.2 Cells in use must be adequately heated, cleaned and ventilated. They must be adequately lit, subject to such dimming as is compatible with safety and security to allow people detained overnight to sleep. No additional restraints shall be used within a locked cell unless absolutely necessary and then only restraint equipment, approved for use by the Chief Constable, which is reasonable and necessary in the circumstances having regard to the detainee's demeanour and with a view to ensuring their safety and the safety of others. If a detainee is deaf, mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, particular care must be taken when deciding whether to use any form of approved restraints.
- 8.3 Blankets, mattresses, pillows and other bedding supplied shall be of a reasonable standard and in a clean and sanitary condition.
- 8.4 Access to toilet and washing facilities must be provided.
- 8.5 If it is necessary to remove a detainee's clothes for the purposes of investigation, for hygiene, health reasons or cleaning, replacement clothing of a reasonable standard of comfort and cleanliness shall be provided. A detainee may not be interviewed unless adequate clothing has been offered.
- 8.6 At least two light meals and one main meal should be offered in any 24 hour period. *See Note 8B.* Drinks should be provided at meal times and upon reasonable request between meals. Whenever necessary, advice shall be sought from a forensic medical officer on medical and dietary matters. As far as practicable, meals provided shall offer a varied diet and meet any specific dietary needs or religious beliefs the detainee may have. Detainees should also be made aware that the meals offered meet such needs. The detainee may, at the custody officer's discretion, have meals supplied by their family or friends at their expense. *See Note 8A.*
- 8.7 Brief outdoor exercise shall be offered daily if practicable. Where facilities exist, indoor exercise shall be offered as an alternative if outside conditions are such that a detainee can not be reasonably expected to take outdoor exercise (e.g., in cold or wet weather) or if requested by the detainee or for reasons of security. *See Note 8C.*
- 8.8 Where practicable, provision should be made for detainees to practice religious observance. Consideration should be given to providing a separate room which can be used as a prayer room. The supply of appropriate food and

clothing, and suitable provision for prayer facilities, such as uncontaminated copies of religious books, should also be considered. *See Note 8D.*

- 8.9 A juvenile shall not be placed in a police cell unless no other secure accommodation is available and the custody officer considers it is not practicable to supervise them if they are not placed in a cell or that a cell provides more comfortable accommodation than other secure accommodation in the station. A juvenile may not be placed in a cell with a detained adult.
- 8.10 Police stations should keep a reasonable supply of reading material available for detainees, including but not limited to, the main religious texts. *See Note 8D.* Detainees should be made aware that such material is available and reasonable requests for such material should be met as soon as practicable unless to do so would:
- (i) interfere with the investigation; or
  - (ii) prevent or delay an officer from discharging his statutory duties, or those in this Code.

If such a request is refused on the grounds of (i) or (ii) above, this should be noted in the custody record and met as soon as possible after those grounds cease to apply.

- 8.11 Reasonable force may be used if necessary for the following purposes:
- (i) to secure compliance with reasonable instructions, including instructions given in pursuance of the provisions of a code of practice; or
  - (ii) to prevent escape, injury, damage to property or the destruction of evidence.

### **(b) Documentation**

- 8.12 A record must be kept of replacement clothing and meals offered.
- 8.13 The use of any restraints on a detainee whilst in a cell, the reasons for it and, if appropriate, the arrangements for enhanced supervision of the detainee whilst so restrained, shall be recorded. *See paragraph 3.9.*

## Notes for guidance

- 8A In deciding whether to allow meals to be supplied by family or friends, the custody officer is entitled to take account of the risk of items being concealed in any food or package and the officer's duties and responsibilities under food handling legislation. If an officer needs to examine food or other items supplied by family and friends before deciding whether they can be given to the detainee, he should inform the person who has brought the item to the police station of this and the reasons for doing so.
- 8B Meals should, so far as practicable, be offered at recognised meal times, or at other times that take account of when the detainee last had a meal.
- 8C In light of the potential for detaining individuals for extended periods of time, the overriding principle should be to accommodate a period of exercise, except where to do so would hinder the investigation, delay the detainee's release or charge, or it is declined by the detainee.
- 8D Police should consult with representatives of the main religious communities to ensure the provision for religious observance is adequate, and to seek advice on the appropriate storage and handling of religious texts or other religious items.

## 9 Care and treatment of detained persons

### (a) General

- 9.1 Notwithstanding other requirements for medical attention as set out in this section, detainees who are held for more than 96 hours must be visited by a forensic medical officer at least once every 24 hours.
- 9.2 Nothing in this section prevents the police from calling a forensic medical officer to examine a detainee for the purposes of obtaining evidence relating to any offence in which the detainee is suspected of being involved.
- 9.3 If a complaint is made by, or on behalf of, a detainee about their treatment since their arrest, or it comes to notice that a detainee may have been treated improperly, a report must be made as soon as practicable to an officer of inspector rank or above not connected with the investigation. If the matter concerns a possible assault or the possibility of the unnecessary or

unreasonable use of force, a forensic medical officer must also be called as soon as practicable.

- 9.4 Detainees should be visited at least every hour. If no reasonably foreseeable risk was identified in a risk assessment, *see paragraphs 3.6-3.10*, there is no need to wake a sleeping detainee. Those suspected of being intoxicated through drink or drugs or having swallowed drugs, *see Note 9B*, or whose level of consciousness causes concern must, subject to any clinical directions given by a forensic medical officer, *see paragraph 9.15*:

- be visited and roused at least every half hour
- have their condition assessed as in Annex H
- and clinical treatment arranged if appropriate.

*See Notes 9A, 9B and 9F.*

- 9.5 When arrangements are made to secure clinical attention for a detainee, the custody officer must make sure all relevant information which might assist in the treatment of the detainee's condition is made available to a forensic medical officer. This applies whether or not a forensic medical officer asks for such information. Any officer or police staff with relevant information must inform the custody officer as soon as practicable.

### **(b) Clinical treatment and attention**

- 9.6 The custody officer must make sure a detainee receives appropriate clinical attention as soon as reasonably practicable if the person:
- (a) appears to be suffering from physical illness; or
  - (b) is injured; or
  - (c) appears to be suffering from a mental disorder; or
  - (d) appears to need clinical attention.
- 9.7 This applies even if the detainee makes no request for clinical attention and whether or not they have already received clinical attention elsewhere. If the need for attention appears urgent, e.g. when indicated as in Annex H, the nearest available forensic medical officer or an ambulance must be called immediately.

- 9.8 The custody officer must also consider the need for clinical attention as set out in Note 9B in relation to those suffering the effects of alcohol or drugs.
- 9.9 If it appears to the custody officer, or they are told, that a person brought to a station under arrest may be suffering from an infectious disease or condition, the custody officer must take reasonable steps to safeguard the health of the detainee and others at the station. In deciding what action to take, advice must be sought from a forensic medical officer. See Note 9C. The custody officer has discretion to isolate the person and their property until clinical directions have been obtained.
- 9.10 If a detainee requests a clinical examination, a forensic medical officer must be called as soon as practicable to assess the detainee's clinical needs. The detainee may also be examined by a medical practitioner of their choice at their expense.
- 9.11 If a detainee is required to take or apply any medication in compliance with clinical directions prescribed before their detention, the custody officer must consult a forensic medical officer before the use of the medication. Subject to the restrictions in paragraph 9.12, the custody officer is responsible for the safekeeping of any medication and for making sure the detainee is given the opportunity to take or apply prescribed or approved medication. Any such consultation and its outcome shall be noted in the custody record.
- 9.12 No police officer may administer or supervise the self-administration of medically prescribed controlled drugs of the types and forms listed in the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001, Schedule 2 or 3. A detainee may only self-administer such drugs under the personal supervision of the forensic medical officer authorising their use. Drugs listed in Schedule 4 or 5 may be distributed by the custody officer for self-administration if they have consulted the forensic medical officer authorising their use, this may be done by telephone, and both parties are satisfied self-administration will not expose the detainee, police officers or anyone else to the risk of harm or injury.
- 9.13 When forensic medical officers administer drugs or other medications, or supervise their self-administration, it must be within current medicines legislation and the scope of practice as determined by their relevant professional body.
- 9.14 If a detainee has in their possession, or claims to need, medication relating to a heart condition, diabetes, epilepsy or a condition of comparable potential

seriousness then, even though paragraph 9.6 may not apply, the advice of a forensic medical officer must be obtained.

- 9.15 Whenever a forensic medical officer is called in accordance with this section to examine or treat a detainee, the custody officer shall ask for their opinion about:
- any risks or problems which police need to take into account when making decisions about the detainee's continued detention;
  - when to carry out an interview if applicable; and
  - the need for safeguards.
- 9.16 When clinical directions are given by a forensic medical officer, whether orally or in writing, and the custody officer has any doubts or is in any way uncertain about any aspect of the directions, the custody officer shall ask for clarification. It is particularly important that directions concerning the frequency of visits are clear, precise and capable of being implemented. See *Note 9D*.

### **(c) Documentation**

- 9.17 A record must be made in the custody record of:
- (a) the arrangements made for an examination by a forensic medical officer under paragraph 9.3 and of any complaint reported under that paragraph together with any relevant remarks by the custody officer;
  - (b) any arrangements made in accordance with paragraph 9.6;
  - (c) any request for a clinical examination under paragraph 9.10 and any arrangements made in response;
  - (d) the injury, ailment, condition or other reason which made it necessary to make the arrangements in (a) to (c), see *Note 9E*;
  - (e) any clinical directions and advice, including any further clarifications, given to police by a forensic medical officer concerning the care and treatment of the detainee in connection with any of the arrangements made in (a) to (c), see *Note 9D*;
  - (f) if applicable, the responses received when attempting to rouse a person using the procedure in Annex H, see *Note 9F*.

- 9.18 If a forensic medical officer does not record their clinical findings in the custody record, the record must show where they are recorded. *See Note 9E.* However, information which is necessary to custody staff to ensure the effective ongoing care and well being of the detainee must be recorded openly in the custody record. *See paragraph 3.8 and Annex C, paragraph 7.*
- 9.19 Subject to the requirements of Section 4, the custody record shall include:
- a record of all medication a detainee has in their possession on arrival at the police station;
  - a note of any such medication they claim to need but do not have with them.

### Notes for guidance

- 9A Whenever possible juveniles and mentally vulnerable detainees should be visited more frequently.
- 9B A detainee who appears drunk or behaves abnormally may be suffering from illness, the effects of drugs or may have sustained injury, particularly a head injury which is not apparent. A detainee needing or dependent on certain drugs, including alcohol, may experience harmful effects within a short time of being deprived of their supply. In these circumstances, when there is any doubt, police should always act urgently to call a forensic medical officer or an ambulance. Paragraph 9.6 does not apply to minor ailments or injuries which do not need attention. However, all such ailments or injuries must be recorded in the custody record and any doubt must be resolved in favour of calling a forensic medical officer.
- 9C It is important to respect a person's right to privacy and information about their health must be kept confidential and only disclosed with their consent or in accordance with clinical advice when it is necessary to protect the detainee's health or that of others who come into contact with them.
- 9D The custody officer should always seek to clarify directions that the detainee requires constant observation or supervision and should ask a forensic medical officer to explain precisely what action needs to be taken to implement such directions.
- 9E Paragraphs 9.17 and 9.18 do not require any information about the cause of any injury, ailment or condition to be recorded on the custody record if it appears capable of providing evidence of an offence.

- 9F The purpose of recording a person's responses when attempting to rouse them using the procedure in Annex H is to enable any change in the individual's consciousness level to be noted and clinical treatment arranged if appropriate.

## 10. Cautions

### (a) When a caution must be given

- 10.1 A person whom there are grounds to suspect of an offence, *see Note 10A*, must be cautioned before any questions about an offence, or further questions if the answers provide the grounds for suspicion, are put to them if either the suspect's answers or silence, (i.e. failure or refusal to answer or answer satisfactorily) may be given in evidence to a court in a prosecution.
- 10.2 A person who is arrested, or further arrested, must be informed at the time, or as soon as practicable thereafter, that they are under arrest and the grounds for their arrest. *See paragraph 3.4, Notes 3G and 10B and Code G, paragraphs 2.2 and 4.3.*
- 10.3 As per Code G, section 3, a person who is arrested, or further arrested, must also be cautioned unless:
- (a) it is impracticable to do so by reason of their condition or behaviour at the time;
  - (b) they have already been cautioned immediately prior to arrest as in paragraph 10.1.

### (b) Terms of the cautions

- 10.4 The caution which must be given on:
- (a) arrest;
  - (b) all other occasions before a person is charged or informed they may be prosecuted, *see PACE Code C, section 16*,

should, unless the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, *see Annex C*, be in the following terms:

*"You do not have to say anything, but I must caution you that if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in Court,*

*it may harm your defence. If you do say anything it may be given in evidence."*

*See Note 10F.*

- 10.5 Annex C, paragraph 2 sets out the alternative terms of the caution to be used when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies.
- 10.6 Minor deviations from the words of any caution given in accordance with this Code do not constitute a breach of this Code, provided the sense of the relevant caution is preserved. *See Note 10C.*
- 10.7 After any break in questioning under caution, the person being questioned must be made aware they remain under caution. If there is any doubt the relevant caution should be given again in full when the interview resumes. *See Note 10D.*
- 10.8 When, despite being cautioned, a person fails to co-operate or to answer particular questions which may affect their immediate treatment, the person should be informed of any relevant consequences and that those consequences are not affected by the caution. Examples are when a person's refusal to provide:
  - their name and address when charged may make them liable to detention;
  - particulars and information in accordance with a statutory requirement.

### **(c) Special warnings under the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, Articles 5 and 6.**

- 10.9 When a suspect interviewed at a police station or authorised place of detention after arrest fails or refuses to answer certain questions, or to answer satisfactorily, after due warning, *see Note 10E*, a court or jury may draw such inferences as appear proper under the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, Articles 5 and 6. Such inferences may only be drawn when:
  - (a) the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence, *see Annex C*, does not apply; and
  - (b) the suspect is arrested by a constable and fails or refuses to account for any objects, marks or substances, or marks on such objects found:
    - on their person;
    - in or on their clothing or footwear;

- otherwise in their possession; or
  - in the place they were arrested;
- (c) the arrested suspect was found by a constable at a place at or about the time the offence for which that officer has arrested them is alleged to have been committed, and the suspect fails or refuses to account for their presence there.

When the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, the suspect may still be asked to account for any of the matters in (b) or (c) but the special warning described in paragraph 10.10 will not apply and must not be given.

10.10 For an inference to be drawn when a suspect fails or refuses to answer a question about one of these matters or to answer it satisfactorily, the suspect must first be told in ordinary language:

- (a) what offence is being investigated;
- (b) what fact they are being asked to account for;
- (c) this fact may be due to them taking part in the commission of the offence;
- (d) a court may draw a proper inference if they fail or refuse to account for this fact;
- (e) a record is being made of the interview and it may be given in evidence if they are brought to trial.

**(d) Juveniles and persons who are mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable.**

10.11 If a juvenile or a person who is mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable is cautioned in the absence of the appropriate adult, the caution must be repeated in the adult's presence.

**(e) Documentation**

10.12 A record shall be made when a caution is given under this section, either in the interviewer's official note book or in the interview record.

## Notes for guidance

- 10A There must be some reasonable, objective grounds for the suspicion, based on known facts or information which are relevant to the likelihood the offence has been committed and the person to be questioned committed it.
- 10B An arrested person must be given sufficient information to enable them to understand that they have been deprived of their liberty and the reason they have been arrested, e.g. when a person is arrested on suspicion of committing an offence they must be informed of the suspected offence's nature, when and where it was committed. See *Note 3F*. The suspect must also be informed of the reason or reasons why the arrest is considered necessary. Vague or technical language should be avoided.
- 10C If it appears a person does not understand the caution, the person giving it should explain it in their own words.
- 10D It may be necessary to show to the court that nothing occurred during an interview break or between interviews which influenced the suspect's recorded evidence. After a break in an interview or at the beginning of a subsequent interview, the interviewing officer should summarise the reason for the break and confirm this with the suspect.
- 10E The Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, Articles 5 and 6 apply only to suspects who have been arrested by a constable or an officer of Revenue and Customs and are given the relevant warning by the police or an officer of Revenue and Customs who made the arrest or who is investigating the offence. They do not apply to any interviews with suspects who have not been arrested.
- 10F Nothing in this Code requires a caution to be given or repeated when informing a person not under arrest they may be prosecuted for an offence. However, a court will not be able to draw any inferences under the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, Article 3, if the person was not cautioned.

## 11 Interviews - general

### (a) Action

- 11.1 An interview in this Code is the questioning of a person arrested on suspicion of being a terrorist which, under paragraph 10.1, must be carried out under caution. Whenever a person is interviewed they must be informed of the grounds for arrest. *See Note 3F.*
- 11.2 Following a decision to arrest a suspect, they must not be interviewed about the relevant offence except at a place designated for detention under Schedule 8 paragraph 1 of TACT, unless the consequent delay would be likely to:
- (a) lead to:
    - interference with, or harm to, evidence connected with an offence;
    - interference with, or physical harm to, other people; or
    - serious loss of, or damage to, property;
  - (b) lead to alerting other people suspected of committing an offence but not yet arrested for it; or
  - (c) hinder the recovery of property obtained in consequence of the commission of an offence.

Interviewing in any of these circumstances shall cease once the relevant risk has been averted or the necessary questions have been put in order to attempt to avert that risk.

- 11.3 Immediately prior to the commencement or re-commencement of any interview at a designated place of detention, the interviewer should remind the suspect of their entitlement to legal advice and that the interview can be delayed for legal advice to be obtained, unless one of the exceptions in paragraph 6.7 applies. It is the interviewer's responsibility to make sure all reminders are recorded in the interview record.
- 11.4 At the beginning of an interview the interviewer, after cautioning the suspect, *see section 10*, shall put to them any significant statement or silence which occurred in the presence and hearing of a police officer or other police staff before the start of the interview and which have not been put to the suspect in the course of a previous interview. *See Note 11A.* The interviewer shall ask the suspect whether they confirm or deny that earlier statement or silence and if they want to add anything.

- 11.5 A significant statement is one which appears capable of being used in evidence against the suspect, in particular a direct admission of guilt. A significant silence is a failure or refusal to answer a question or answer satisfactorily when under caution, which might, allowing for the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence, see *Annex C*, give rise to an inference under Articles 3,5 or 6 of the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988.
- 11.6 No interviewer may try to obtain answers or elicit a statement by the use of oppression. Except as in paragraph 10.8, no interviewer shall indicate, except to answer a direct question, what action will be taken by the police if the person being questioned answers questions, makes a statement or refuses to do either. If the person asks directly what action will be taken if they answer questions, make a statement or refuse to do either, the interviewer may inform them what action the police propose to take provided that action is itself proper and warranted.
- 11.7 The interview or further interview of a person about an offence with which that person has not been charged or for which they have not been informed they may be prosecuted, must cease when:
- (a) the officer in charge of the investigation is satisfied all the questions they consider relevant to obtaining accurate and reliable information about the offence have been put to the suspect, this includes allowing the suspect an opportunity to give an innocent explanation and asking questions to test if the explanation is accurate and reliable, e.g. to clear up ambiguities or clarify what the suspect said;
  - (b) the officer in charge of the investigation has taken account of any other available evidence; and
  - (c) the officer in charge of the investigation, or in the case of a detained suspect, the custody officer, see *PACE Code C paragraph 16.1*, reasonably believes there is sufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction for that offence. See *Note 11B*.

### **(b) Interview records**

- 11.8 Interview records should be made in accordance with the Code of Practice issued under Schedule 8 Paragraph 3 of TACT where the interview takes place at a designated place of detention.

### **(c) Juveniles and mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable people**

- 11.9 A juvenile or person who is mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable must not be interviewed regarding their involvement or suspected involvement in a criminal offence or offences, or asked to provide or sign a written statement under caution or record of interview, in the absence of the appropriate adult unless paragraphs 11.2, 11.11 to 11.13 apply. *See Note 11C.*
- 11.10 If an appropriate adult is present at an interview, they shall be informed:
- they are not expected to act simply as an observer; and
  - the purpose of their presence is to:
    - advise the person being interviewed;
    - observe whether the interview is being conducted properly and fairly;
    - facilitate communication with the person being interviewed.

The appropriate adult may be required to leave the interview if their conduct is such that the interviewer is unable properly to put questions to the suspect. This will include situations where the appropriate adult's approach or conduct prevents or unreasonably obstructs proper questions being put to the suspect or the suspect's responses being recorded. If the interviewer considers an appropriate adult is acting in such a way, they will stop the interview and consult an officer not below superintendent rank, if one is readily available, and otherwise an officer not below inspector rank not connected with the investigation. After speaking to the appropriate adult, the officer consulted will decide if the interview should continue without the attendance of that appropriate adult. If they decide it should continue without that appropriate adult, another appropriate adult should be obtained before the interview continues, unless the provisions of paragraph 11.11 below apply.

### **(d) Vulnerable suspects - urgent interviews at police stations**

- 11.11 The following persons may not be interviewed unless an officer of superintendent rank or above considers delay will lead to the consequences in paragraph 11.2(a) to (c), and is satisfied the interview would not significantly harm the person's physical or mental state. *See Annex G:*
- (a) a juvenile or person who is mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable if at the time of the interview the appropriate adult is not present;

- (b) anyone other than in (a) who at the time of the interview appears unable to:
  - appreciate the significance of questions and their answers; or
  - understand what is happening because of the effects of drink, drugs or any illness, ailment or condition;
- (c) a person who has difficulty understanding English or has a hearing disability, if at the time of the interview an interpreter is not present.

11.12 These interviews may not continue once sufficient information has been obtained to avert the consequences in paragraph 11.2(a) to (c).

11.13 A record shall be made of the grounds for any decision to interview a person under paragraph 11.11.

### Notes for guidance

11A Paragraph 11.4 does not prevent the interviewer from putting significant statements and silences to a suspect again at a later stage or a further interview.

11B The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 Code of Practice, paragraph 3.4 states 'In conducting an investigation, the investigator should pursue all reasonable lines of enquiry, whether these point towards or away from the suspect. What is reasonable will depend on the particular circumstances.' Interviewers should keep this in mind when deciding what questions to ask in an interview.

11C Although juveniles or people who are mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable are often capable of providing reliable evidence, they may, without knowing or wishing to do so, be particularly prone in certain circumstances to provide information that may be unreliable, misleading or self-incriminating. Special care should always be taken when questioning such a person, and the appropriate adult should be involved if there is any doubt about a person's age, mental state or capacity. Because of the risk of unreliable evidence it is also important to obtain corroboration of any facts admitted whenever possible.

11D Consideration should be given to the effect of extended detention on a detainee and any subsequent information they provide, especially if it relates

to information on matters that they have failed to provide previously in response to similar questioning.

- 11E Significant statements described in paragraph 11.4 will always be relevant to the offence and must be recorded. When a suspect agrees to read records of interviews and other comments and sign them as correct, they should be asked to endorse the record with, e.g. 'I agree that this is a correct record of what was said' and add their signature. If the suspect does not agree with the record, the interviewer should record the details of any disagreement and ask the suspect to read these details and sign them to the effect that they accurately reflect their disagreement. Any refusal to sign should be recorded.

## 12 Interviews in police stations

### (a) Action

- 12.1 If a police officer wants to interview or conduct enquiries which require the presence of a detainee, the custody officer is responsible for deciding whether to deliver the detainee into the officer's custody.
- 12.2 Except as below, in any period of 24 hours a detainee must be allowed a continuous period of at least 8 hours for rest, free from questioning, travel or any interruption in connection with the investigation concerned. This period should normally be at night or other appropriate time which takes account of when the detainee last slept or rested. If a detainee is arrested at a police station after going there voluntarily, the period of 24 hours runs from the time of their arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began) and not the time of arrival at the police station. The period may not be interrupted or delayed, except:
- (a) when there are reasonable grounds for believing not delaying or interrupting the period would:
    - (i) involve a risk of harm to people or serious loss of, or damage to, property;
    - (ii) delay unnecessarily the person's release from custody;
    - (iii) otherwise prejudice the outcome of the investigation;

- (b) at the request of the detainee, their appropriate adult or legal representative;
- (c) when a delay or interruption is necessary in order to:
  - (i) comply with the legal obligations and duties arising under section 14;
  - (ii) to take action required under section 9 or in accordance with medical advice.

If the period is interrupted in accordance with (a), a fresh period must be allowed. Interruptions under (b) and (c), do not require a fresh period to be allowed.

- 12.3 Before a detainee is interviewed the custody officer, in consultation with the officer in charge of the investigation and a forensic medical officer as necessary, shall assess whether the detainee is fit enough to be interviewed. This means determining and considering the risks to the detainee's physical and mental state if the interview took place and determining what safeguards are needed to allow the interview to take place. See *Annex C*. The custody officer shall not allow a detainee to be interviewed if the custody officer considers it would cause significant harm to the detainee's physical or mental state. Vulnerable suspects listed at paragraph 11.11 shall be treated as always being at some risk during an interview and these persons may not be interviewed except in accordance with paragraphs 11.11 to 11.13.
- 12.4 As far as practicable interviews shall take place in interview rooms which are adequately heated, lit and ventilated.
- 12.5 A suspect whose detention without charge has been authorised under TACT Schedule 8, because the detention is necessary for an interview to obtain evidence of the offence for which they have been arrested, may choose not to answer questions but police do not require the suspect's consent or agreement to interview them for this purpose. If a suspect takes steps to prevent themselves being questioned or further questioned, e.g. by refusing to leave their cell to go to a suitable interview room or by trying to leave the interview room, they shall be advised their consent or agreement to interview is not required. The suspect shall be cautioned as in section 10, and informed if they fail or refuse to co-operate, the interview may take place in the cell and that their failure or refusal to co-operate may be given in evidence. The suspect shall then be invited to co-operate and go into the interview room.

- 12.6 People being questioned or making statements shall not be required to stand.
- 12.7 Before the interview commences each interviewer shall, subject to the qualification at paragraph 2.8, identify themselves and any other persons present to the interviewee.
- 12.8 Breaks from interviewing should be made at recognised meal times or at other times that take account of when an interviewee last had a meal. Short refreshment breaks shall be provided at approximately two hour intervals, subject to the interviewer's discretion to delay a break if there are reasonable grounds for believing it would:
- (i) involve a:
    - risk of harm to people;
    - serious loss of, or damage to, property;
  - (ii) unnecessarily delay the detainee's release;
  - (iii) otherwise prejudice the outcome of the investigation.

*See Note 12B.*

- 12.9 During extended periods where no interviews take place, because of the need to gather further evidence or analyse existing evidence, detainees and their legal representative shall be informed that the investigation into the relevant offence remains ongoing. If practicable, the detainee and legal representative should also be made aware in general terms of any reasons for long gaps between interviews. Consideration should be given to allowing visits, more frequent exercise, or for reading or writing materials to be offered. *See paragraph 5.4, section 8 and Note 12C.*
- 12.10 If during the interview a complaint is made by or on behalf of the interviewee concerning the provisions of this Code, the interviewer should:
- (i) record it in the interview record;
  - (ii) inform the custody officer, who is then responsible for dealing with it as in section 9.

## **(b) Documentation**

12.11 A record must be made of the:

- time a detainee is not in the custody of the custody officer, and why
- reason for any refusal to deliver the detainee out of that custody.

12.12 A record shall be made of:

- (a) the reasons it was not practicable to use an interview room; and
- (b) any action taken as in paragraph 12.5.

The record shall be made on the custody record or in the interview record for action taken whilst an interview record is being kept, with a brief reference to this effect in the custody record.

12.13 Any decision to delay a break in an interview must be recorded, with reasons, in the interview record.

12.14 All written statements made at police stations under caution shall be written on forms provided for the purpose.

12.15 All written statements made under caution shall be taken in accordance with Annex D. Before a person makes a written statement under caution at a police station they shall be reminded about the right to legal advice. *See Note 12A.*

## **Notes for guidance**

12A It is not normally necessary to ask for a written statement if the interview was recorded in writing and the record signed in accordance with the Code of Practice issued under TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 3. Statements under caution should normally be taken in these circumstances only at the person's express wish. A person may however be asked if they want to make such a statement.

12B Meal breaks should normally last at least 45 minutes and shorter breaks after two hours should last at least 15 minutes. If the interviewer delays a break in accordance with paragraph 12.8 and prolongs the interview, a longer break should be provided. If there is a short interview, and another short interview is contemplated, the length of the break may be reduced if there are reasonable grounds to believe this is necessary to avoid any of the consequences in paragraph 12.8(i) to (iii).

- 12C Consideration should be given to the matters referred to in paragraph 12.9 after a period of over 24 hours without questioning. This is to ensure that extended periods of detention without an indication that the investigation remains ongoing do not contribute to a deterioration of the detainee's well-being.

## 13 Interpreters

### (a) General

- 13.1 The Chief Constable is responsible for making sure appropriate arrangements are in place for provision of suitably qualified interpreters for people who:
- are deaf;
  - do not understand English.

### (b) Foreign languages

- 13.2 Unless paragraphs 11.2, 11.11 to 11.13 apply, a person must not be interviewed in the absence of a person capable of interpreting if:
- (a) they have difficulty understanding English;
  - (b) the interviewer cannot speak the person's own language;
  - (c) the person wants an interpreter present.
- 13.3 The interviewer shall make sure the interpreter makes a note of the interview at the time in the person's language for use in the event of the interpreter being called to give evidence, and certifies its accuracy. The interviewer should allow sufficient time for the interpreter to note each question and answer after each is put, given and interpreted. The person should be allowed to read the record or have it read to them and sign it as correct or indicate the respects in which they consider it inaccurate. If the interview is audibly recorded or visually recorded, the Code of Practice issued under Schedule 8, Paragraph 3 of TACT will apply.
- 13.4 In the case of a person making a statement to a police officer or other police staff other than in English:
- (a) the interpreter shall record the statement in the language it is made;
  - (b) the person shall be invited to sign it;

(c) an official English translation shall be made in due course.

### **(c) Deaf people and people with speech difficulties**

- 13.5 If a person appears to be deaf or there is doubt about their hearing or speaking ability, they must not be interviewed in the absence of an interpreter unless they agree in writing to being interviewed without one or paragraphs 11.2, 11.11 to 11.13 apply.
- 13.6 An interpreter should also be called if a juvenile is interviewed and the parent or guardian present as the appropriate adult appears to be deaf or there is doubt about their hearing or speaking ability, unless they agree in writing to the interview proceeding without one or paragraphs 11.2, 11.11 to 11.13 apply.
- 13.7 The interviewer shall make sure the interpreter is allowed to read the interview record and certify its accuracy in the event of the interpreter being called to give evidence. If the interview is audibly recorded or visually recorded, the Code of Practice issued under TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 3 will apply.

### **(d) Additional rules for detained persons**

- 13.8 All reasonable attempts should be made to make the detainee understand that interpreters will be provided at public expense.
- 13.9 If paragraph 6.1 applies and the detainee cannot communicate with the solicitor because of language, hearing or speech difficulties, an interpreter must be called. The interpreter may not be a police officer or any other police staff when interpretation is needed for the purposes of obtaining legal advice. In all other cases a police officer or other police staff may only interpret if the detainee and the appropriate adult, if applicable, give their agreement in writing or if the interview is audibly recorded or visually recorded as in the Code of Practice issued under TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 3.
- 13.10 When the custody officer cannot establish effective communication with a person charged with an offence who appears deaf or there is doubt about their ability to hear, speak or to understand English, arrangements must be made as soon as practicable for an interpreter to explain the offence and any other information given by the custody officer.

### (e) Documentation

- 13.11 Action taken to call an interpreter under this section and any agreement to be interviewed in the absence of an interpreter must be recorded.

## 14 Reviews and Extensions of Detention

### (a) Reviews and Extensions of detention

- 14.1 The powers and duties of the review officer are in Schedule 8, Part II of TACT. *See Notes 14A and 14B.* A review officer should carry out his duties at the police station where the detainee is held, and be allowed such access to the detainee as is necessary for him to exercise those duties.
- 14.2 For the purposes of reviewing a person's detention, no officer shall put specific questions to the detainee:
- regarding their involvement in any offence; or
  - in respect of any comments they may make:
    - when given the opportunity to make representations; or
    - in response to a decision to keep them in detention or extend the maximum period of detention.

Such an exchange could constitute an interview as in paragraph 11.1 and would be subject to the associated safeguards in section 11 and, in respect of a person who has been charged. *See PACE Code C Section 16.8.*

- 14.3 If detention is necessary for longer than 48 hours, a police officer of at least superintendent rank, or the Director of Public Prosecutions may apply for warrants of further detention under TACT, Schedule 8, Part III.
- 14.4 When an application for a warrant of further or extended detention is sought under Paragraph 29 or 36 of Schedule 8, the detained person and their representative must be informed of their rights in respect of the application. These include:
- (a) the right to a written or oral notice of the warrant. *See Note 14G.*
  - (b) the right to make oral or written representations to the judicial authority about the application.
  - (c) the right to be present and legally represented at the hearing of the application, unless specifically excluded by the judicial authority.
  - (d) their right to legal advice. *See section 6 of this Code.*

### **(b) Transfer of detained persons to Prison**

- 14.5 When a warrant has been obtained that authorises detention beyond a period of 14 days from the time of arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began), the detainee must be transferred from detention in a police station to detention in a designated prison as soon as is practicable, unless:
- (a) the detainee specifically requests to remain in detention at a police station and that request can be accommodated, or
  - (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that transferring a person to a prison would:
    - (i) significantly hinder a terrorism investigation;
    - (ii) raise serious medical concerns;
    - (iii) present significant security concerns;
    - (iv) delay charging of the detainee or his release from custody, or
    - (v) otherwise prevent the investigation from being conducted diligently and expeditiously.

If any of the grounds in (b)(i) to (v) above are relied upon, these must be presented to the judicial authority as part of the application for the warrant that would extend detention beyond a period of 14 days from the time of arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began). *See Note 14J.*

- 14.6 If a person remains in detention at a police station under a warrant of further detention as described at section 14.5, they must be transferred to a prison as soon as practicable after the grounds at (b)(i) to (v) of that section cease to apply.
- 14.7 Police should maintain an agreement with the Northern Ireland Prison Service that stipulates named prisons to which individuals may be transferred under this section. This should be made with regard to ensuring detainees are moved to the most suitable prison for the purposes of the investigation and their welfare, and should include provision for the transfer of male, female and juvenile detainees. Police should ensure that the Governor of a prison to which they intend to transfer a detainee is given reasonable notice of this.

Where practicable, this should be no later than the point at which a warrant is applied for that would take the period of detention beyond 14 days.

- 14.8 Following a detained person's transfer to a designated prison, their detention will be governed by the terms of Schedule 8 and Prison Rules, and this Code of Practice will not apply during any period that the person remains in prison detention. The Code will once more apply if a detained person is transferred back from prison detention to police detention. The Governor of a prison should be given notice as soon as possible of any decision to transfer a detainee back to police custody. Any transfer between a prison and a police station should be conducted by police, and this Code will be applicable during the period of transit. *See Note 14K.* A detainee should only remain in police custody having been transferred back from a prison, for as long as is necessary for the purpose of the investigation.
- 14.9 The investigating team and custody officer should provide as much information as necessary to enable the relevant prison authorities to provide appropriate facilities to detain an individual. This should include, but not be limited to:
- (i) medical assessments
  - (ii) security and risk assessments
  - (iii) details of the detained person's legal representatives
  - (iv) details of any individuals from whom the detained person has requested visits, or who have requested to visit the detained person.
- 14.10 Where a detainee is to be transferred to prison, the custody officer should inform the detainee's legal adviser beforehand that the transfer is to take place (including the name of the prison). The custody officer should also take all reasonable steps to inform:
- family or friends who have been informed previously of the detainee's detention; and
  - the person who was initially informed of the detainee's detention as at paragraph 5.1.

### **(c) Documentation**

- 14.11 It is the responsibility of the officer who gives any reminders as at paragraph 14.4 to ensure that these are noted in the custody record, as well any comments made by the detained person upon being told of those rights.

- 14.12 The grounds for, and extent of, any delay in conducting a review shall be recorded.
- 14.13 Any written representations shall be retained.
- 14.14 A record shall be made as soon as practicable about the outcome of each review or determination whether to extend the maximum detention period without charge or an application for a warrant of further detention or its extension.
- 14.15 Any decision not to transfer a detained person to a designated prison under paragraph 14.5, must be recorded, along with the reasons for this decision. If a request under paragraph 14.5(a) is not accommodated, the reasons for this should also be recorded.

### Notes for guidance

- 14A TACT Schedule 8 Part II sets out the procedures for review of detention up to 48 hours after arrest under TACT section 41 (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began). These include provisions for the requirement to review detention, postponing a review, grounds for continued detention, designating a review officer, representations, rights of the detained person and keeping a record. The review officer's role ends after a warrant has been issued for extension of detention under Part III of Schedule 8.
- 14B Section 24(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006, extended the grounds contained within the 2000 Act on which a review officer may authorise continued detention. Continued detention may be authorised if it is necessary-
- (a) to obtain relevant evidence whether by questioning him or otherwise
  - (b) to preserve relevant evidence
  - (c) while awaiting the result of an examination or analysis of relevant evidence
  - (d) for the examination or analysis of anything with a view to obtaining relevant evidence

- (e) pending a decision to apply to the Secretary of State for a deportation notice to be served on the detainee, the making of any such application, or the consideration of any such application by the Secretary of State
  - (f) pending a decision to charge the detainee with an offence.
- 14C Applications for warrants to extend detention beyond 48 hours, may be made for periods of 7 days at a time (initially under TACT Schedule 8 paragraph 29, and extensions thereafter under TACT Schedule 8, Paragraph 36), up to a maximum period of 28 days from the time of arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began). Applications may be made for shorter periods than 7 days, which must be specified. The judicial authority may also substitute a shorter period if he feels a period of 7 days is inappropriate.
- 14D Unless Note 14F applies, applications for warrants that would take the total period of detention up to 14 days or less should be made to a judicial authority, meaning a County Court judge, or a Resident Magistrate designated by the Lord Chancellor to hear such applications.
- 14E Any application for a warrant which would take the period of detention beyond 14 days from the time of arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began), must be made to a High Court Judge.
- 14F If an application has been made to a High Court judge for a warrant which would take detention beyond 14 days, and the High Court judge instead issues a warrant for a period of time which would not take detention beyond 14 days, further applications for extension of detention must also be made to a High Court judge, regardless of the period of time to which they refer.
- 14G TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 31 requires a notice to be given to the detained person if a warrant is sought for further detention. This must be provided before the judicial hearing of the application for that warrant and must include:
- (a) notification that the application for a warrant has been made
  - (b) the time at which the application was made
  - (c) the time at which the application is to be heard
  - (d) the grounds on which further detention is sought.

A notice must also be provided each time an application is made to extend an existing warrant.

- 14H An officer applying for an order under TACT Schedule 8 Paragraph 34 to withhold specified information on which he intends to rely when applying for a warrant of further detention, may make the application for the order orally or in writing. The most appropriate method of application will depend on the circumstances of the case and the need to ensure fairness to the detainee.
- 14I Where facilities exist, hearings relating to extension of detention under Part III of Schedule 8 may take place using video conferencing facilities provided that the requirements set out in Schedule 8 are still met. However, if the judicial authority requires the detained person to be physically present at any hearing, this should be complied with as soon as practicable. Paragraphs 33(4) to 33(9) of TACT Schedule 8 govern the relevant conduct of hearings.
- 14J Transfer to prison is intended to ensure that individuals who are detained for extended periods of time are held in a place designed for longer periods of detention than police stations. Prison will provide detainees with a greater range of facilities more appropriate to longer detention periods.
- 14K The Code will only apply as is appropriate to the conditions of detention during the period of transit.

## 15 Charging

- 15.1 Charging of detained persons is covered by PACE. General guidance on charging of detained persons can be found in section 16 of PACE Code C.

## Annex A – Intimate and Strip Searches

### A Intimate search

1. An intimate search consists of the physical examination of a person's body orifices other than the mouth. The intrusive nature of such searches means the actual and potential risks associated with intimate searches must never be underestimated.

#### (a) Action

2. Body orifices other than the mouth may be searched only if authorised by an officer of Inspector rank or above who has reasonable grounds for believing that the person may have concealed on themselves anything which they could and might use to cause physical injury to themselves or others at the station and the officer has reasonable grounds for believing that an intimate search is the only means of removing those items.
3. Before the search begins, a police officer, designated detention officer or staff custody officer, must tell the detainee:-
  - (a) that the authority to carry out the search has been given;
  - (b) the grounds for giving the authorisation and for believing that the article cannot be removed without an intimate search.
4. An intimate search may only be carried out by a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse, unless an officer of at least Inspector rank considers this is not practicable, in which case a police officer may carry out the search. *See Notes A1 to A5.*
5. Any proposal for a search under paragraph 2 to be carried out by someone other than a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse must only be considered as a last resort and when the authorising officer is satisfied the risks associated with allowing the item to remain with the detainee outweigh the risks associated with removing it.  
  
*See Notes A1 to A5.*
6. An intimate search at a police station of a juvenile or mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person may take place only in the presence of an appropriate adult of the same sex, unless the detainee specifically requests

a particular adult of the opposite sex who is readily available. In the case of a juvenile the search may take place in the absence of the appropriate adult only if the juvenile signifies in the presence of the appropriate adult they do not want the adult present during the search and the adult agrees. A record shall be made of the juvenile's decision and signed by the appropriate adult.

7. When an intimate search under paragraph 2 is carried out by a police officer, the officer must be of the same sex as the detainee. A minimum of two people, other than the detainee, must be present during the search. Subject to paragraph 6, no person of the opposite sex who is not a medical practitioner or nurse shall be present, nor shall anyone whose presence is unnecessary. The search shall be conducted with proper regard to the sensitivity and vulnerability of the detainee.

### **(b) Documentation**

8. In the case of an intimate search under paragraph 2, the following shall be recorded as soon as practicable, in the detainee's custody record:
  - the authorisation to carry out the search;
  - the grounds for giving the authorisation;
  - the grounds for believing the article could not be removed without an intimate search;
  - which parts of the detainee's body were searched;
  - who carried out the search;
  - who was present;
  - the result.
9. If an intimate search is carried out by a police officer, the reason why it was impracticable for a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse to conduct it must be recorded.

## **B Strip search**

10. A strip search is a search involving the removal of more than outer clothing. In this Code, outer clothing includes shoes and socks.

### **(a) Action**

11. A strip search may take place only if it is considered necessary to remove an article which a detainee would not be allowed to keep, and the officer reasonably considers the detainee might have concealed such an article. Strip

searches shall not be routinely carried out if there is no reason to consider that articles are concealed.

### **The conduct of strip searches**

12. When strip searches are conducted:
- (a) a police officer carrying out a strip search must be the same sex as the detainee;
  - (b) the search shall take place in an area where the detainee cannot be seen by anyone who does not need to be present, nor by a member of the opposite sex except an appropriate adult who has been specifically requested by the detainee;
  - (c) except in cases of urgency, where there is risk of serious harm to the detainee or to others, whenever a strip search involves exposure of intimate body parts, there must be at least two people present other than the detainee, and if the search is of a juvenile or mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person, one of the people must be the appropriate adult. Except in urgent cases as above, a search of a juvenile may take place in the absence of the appropriate adult only if the juvenile signifies in the presence of the appropriate adult that they do not want the adult to be present during the search and the adult agrees. A record shall be made of the juvenile's decision and signed by the appropriate adult. The presence of more than two people, other than an appropriate adult, shall be permitted only in the most exceptional circumstances;
  - (d) the search shall be conducted with proper regard to the sensitivity and vulnerability of the detainee in these circumstances and every reasonable effort shall be made to secure the detainee's co-operation and minimise embarrassment. Detainees who are searched shall not normally be required to remove all their clothes at the same time, e.g. a person should be allowed to remove clothing above the waist and redress before removing further clothing;
  - (e) if necessary to assist the search, the detainee may be required to hold their arms in the air or to stand with their legs apart and bend forward so a visual examination may be made of the genital and anal areas provided no physical contact is made with any body orifice;

- (f) if articles are found, the detainee shall be asked to hand them over. If articles are found within any body orifice other than the mouth, and the detainee refuses to hand them over, their removal would constitute an intimate search, which must be carried out as in Part A;
- (g) a strip search shall be conducted as quickly as possible, and the detainee allowed to dress as soon as the procedure is complete.

### **(b) Documentation**

13. A record shall be made on the custody record of a strip search including the reason it was considered necessary, those present and any result.

### **Notes for guidance**

- A1 Before authorising any intimate search, the authorising officer must make every reasonable effort to persuade the detainee to hand the article over without a search. If the detainee agrees, a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse should whenever possible be asked to assess the risks involved and, if necessary, attend to assist the detainee.
- A2 If the detainee does not agree to hand the article over without a search, the authorising officer must carefully review all the relevant factors before authorising an intimate search. In particular, the officer must consider whether the grounds for believing an article may be concealed are reasonable.
- A3 If authority is given for a search under paragraph 2, a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse shall be consulted whenever possible. The presumption should be that the search will be conducted by the registered medical practitioner or registered nurse and the authorising officer must make every reasonable effort to persuade the detainee to allow the medical practitioner or nurse to conduct the search.
- A4 A constable should only be authorised to carry out a search as a last resort and when all other approaches have failed. In these circumstances, the authorising officer must be satisfied the detainee might use the article for one or more of the purposes in paragraph 2 and the physical injury likely to be caused is sufficiently severe to justify authorising a constable to carry out the search.
- A5 If an officer has any doubts whether to authorise an intimate search by a constable, the officer should seek advice from an officer of Superintendent rank or above.

## **Annex B – Delay in Notifying Arrest or Allowing Access to Legal Advice for Persons Detained Under the Terrorism Act 2000.**

### **A Delays under TACT schedule 8**

1. The exercise of the rights in sections 5 or 6 may be delayed if the person is detained under TACT, section 41, has not yet been charged with an offence and an officer of superintendent rank or above has reasonable grounds for believing the exercise of either right will have one of the following consequences:
  - (a) interference with, or harm to, evidence of a serious offence,
  - (b) interference with, or physical injury to, any person,
  - (c) the alerting of persons who are suspected of having committed a serious offence but who have not been arrested for it,
  - (d) the hindering of the recovery of property obtained as a result of a serious offence or in respect of which a forfeiture order could be made under section 23,
  - (e) interference with the gathering of information about the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism,
  - (f) the alerting of a person and thereby making it more difficult to prevent an act of terrorism, or
  - (g) the alerting of a person and thereby making it more difficult to secure a person's apprehension, prosecution or conviction in connection with the commission, preparation or instigation of an act of terrorism.
2. These rights may also be delayed if the officer has reasonable grounds for believing that:
  - (a) the detained person has benefited from his criminal conduct (to be decided in accordance with Part 4 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002), and
  - (b) the recovery of the value of the property constituting the benefit will be hindered by—

- (i) informing the named person of the detained person's detention (in the case of an authorisation under Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 8 to TACT), or
  - (ii) the exercise of the right under paragraph 7 (in the case of an authorisation under Paragraph 8(1)(b) of Schedule 8 to TACT).
3. Authority to delay a detainee's right to consult privately with a solicitor may be given only if the authorising officer has reasonable grounds to believe the solicitor the detainee wants to consult will, inadvertently or otherwise, pass on a message from the detainee or act in some other way which will have any of the consequences specified under paragraph 8 of Schedule 8 to TACT. In these circumstances the detainee must be allowed to choose another solicitor. See *Note B3*.
4. If the detainee wishes to see a solicitor, access to that solicitor may not be delayed on the grounds they might advise the detainee not to answer questions or the solicitor was initially asked to attend the police station by someone else. In the latter case the detainee must be told the solicitor has come to the police station at another person's request, and must be asked to sign the custody record to signify whether they want to see the solicitor.
5. The fact the grounds for delaying notification of arrest may be satisfied does not automatically mean the grounds for delaying access to legal advice will also be satisfied.
6. These rights may be delayed only for as long as is necessary but not beyond 48 hours from the time of arrest (or if a person was being detained under TACT Schedule 7, from the time at which the examination under Schedule 7 began). If the above grounds cease to apply within this time the detainee must as soon as practicable be asked if they wish to exercise either right, the custody record noted accordingly, and action taken in accordance with the relevant section of this Code.
7. A person must be allowed to consult a solicitor for a reasonable time before any court hearing.

## **B Documentation**

8. The grounds for action under this Annex shall be recorded and the detainee informed of them as soon as practicable.

9. Any reply given by a detainee under paragraph 6 must be recorded and the detainee asked to endorse the record in relation to whether they want to receive legal advice at this point.

## **C Cautions and special warnings**

10. When a suspect detained at a police station is interviewed during any period for which access to legal advice has been delayed under this Annex, the court or jury may not draw adverse inferences from their silence.

## **Notes for guidance**

- B1 Even if Annex B applies in the case of a juvenile, or a person who is mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, action to inform the appropriate adult and the person responsible for a juvenile's welfare if that is a different person, must nevertheless be taken as in paragraph 3.15 and 3.17.
- B2 In the case of Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals, see *Note 7A* of this code.
- B3 A decision to delay access to a specific solicitor is likely to be a rare occurrence and only when it can be shown the suspect is capable of misleading that particular solicitor and there is more than a substantial risk that the suspect will succeed in causing information to be conveyed which will lead to one or more of the specified consequences.

## Annex C – Restriction on Drawing Adverse Inferences from Silence and Terms of the Caution when the Restriction Applies

### (a) The restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence

1. Articles 3, 5 & 6 of the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, as amended by Article 36 of the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, describe the conditions under which adverse inferences may be drawn from a person's failure or refusal to say anything about their involvement in the offence when interviewed, after being charged or informed they may be prosecuted. These provisions are subject to an overriding restriction on the ability of a court or jury to draw adverse inferences from a person's silence. This restriction applies:

- (a) to any detainee at a police station who, before being interviewed, see *section 11* or being charged or informed they may be prosecuted, see *section 15*, has:
- (i) asked for legal advice, see *section 6, paragraph 6.1*;
  - (ii) not been allowed an opportunity to consult a solicitor, as in this Code; and
  - (iii) not changed their mind about wanting legal advice, see *section 6, paragraph 6.7(d)*;

Note the condition in (ii) will

- apply when a detainee who has asked for legal advice is interviewed before speaking to a solicitor as in *section 6, paragraph 6.7 (a) or (b)*;
  - not apply if the detained person declines to ask for a solicitor, see *section 6, paragraphs 6.7(c) and (d)*;
- (b) to any person charged with, or informed they may be prosecuted for, an offence who:
- (i) has had brought to their notice a written statement made by another person or the content of an interview with another person which relates to that offence, see *PACE Code C section 16, paragraph 16.6*;
  - (ii) is interviewed about that offence, see *PACE Code C section 16, paragraph 16.4*; or

- (iii) makes a written statement about that offence, see *Annex D, paragraphs 4 and 9*.

**(b) Terms of the caution when the restriction applies**

2. When a requirement to caution arises at a time when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, the caution shall be:

*'You do not have to say anything, but anything you do say may be given in evidence.'*

3. Whenever the restriction either begins to apply or ceases to apply after a caution has already been given, the person shall be re-cautioned in the appropriate terms. The changed position on drawing inferences and that the previous caution no longer applies shall also be explained to the detainee in ordinary language. See *Note C1*.

**Notes for guidance**

- C1 The following is suggested as a framework to help explain changes in the position on drawing adverse inferences if the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence:

- (a) begins to apply:

*'The caution you were previously given no longer applies. This is because after that caution:*

- (i) you asked to speak to a solicitor but have not yet been allowed an opportunity to speak to a solicitor.' See *paragraph 1(a)*; or
- (ii) you have been charged with/informed you may be prosecuted.' See *paragraph 1(b)*.

*'This means that from now on, adverse inferences cannot be drawn at court and your defence will not be harmed just because you choose to say nothing. Please listen carefully to the caution I am about to give you because it will apply from now on. You will see that it does not say anything about your defence being harmed.'*

- (b) ceases to apply before or at the time the person is charged or informed they may be prosecuted, see *paragraph 1(a)*;

*'The caution you were previously given no longer applies. This is because after that caution you have been allowed an opportunity to speak to a solicitor. Please listen carefully to the caution I am about to give you because it will apply from now on. It explains how your defence at court may be affected if you choose to say nothing.'*

## Annex D – Written Statements Under Caution.

### (a) Written by a person under caution

1. A person shall always be invited to write down what they want to say.
2. A person who has not been charged with, or informed they may be prosecuted for, any offence to which the statement they want to write relates, shall:

- (a) unless the statement is made at a time when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, see *Annex C*, be asked to write out and sign the following before writing what they want to say:

*‘I make this statement of my own free will. I understand that I do not have to say anything but if I do not mention when questioned something which I later rely on in court it may harm my defence. This statement may be given in evidence’;*

- (b) if the statement is made at a time when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, be asked to write out and sign the following before writing what they want to say;

*‘I make this statement of my own free will. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.’*

3. When a person, on the occasion of being charged with or informed they may be prosecuted for any offence, asks to make a statement which relates to any such offence and wants to write it they shall:

- (a) unless the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence, see *Annex C*, applied when they were so charged or informed they may be prosecuted, be asked to write out and sign the following before writing what they want to say:

*‘I make this statement of my own free will. I understand that I do not have to say anything but if I do not mention when questioned something which I later rely on in court it may harm my defence. This statement may be given in evidence’;*

- (b) if the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applied when they were so charged or informed they may be prosecuted, be asked to write out and sign the following before writing what they want to say:

*'I make this statement of my own free will. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

4. When a person, who has already been charged with or informed they may be prosecuted for any offence, asks to make a statement which relates to any such offence and wants to write it they shall be asked to write out and sign the following before writing what they want to say:

*'I make this statement of my own free will. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

5. Any person writing their own statement shall be allowed to do so without any prompting except a police officer or other police staff may indicate to them which matters are material or question any ambiguity in the statement.

**(b) Written by a police officer or other police staff**

6. If a person says they would like someone to write the statement for them, a police officer, or other police staff shall write the statement.
7. If the person has not been charged with, or informed they may be prosecuted for, any offence to which the statement they want to make relates they shall, before starting, be asked to sign, or make their mark, to the following:

- (a) unless the statement is made at a time when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies, see Annex C:

*'I, ....., wish to make a statement. I want someone to write down what I say. I understand that I do not have to say anything but if I do not mention when questioned something which I later rely on in court it may harm my defence. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

- (b) if the statement is made at a time when the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applies:

*'I, ....., wish to make a statement. I want someone to write down what I say. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

8. If, on the occasion of being charged with or informed they may be prosecuted for any offence, the person asks to make a statement which relates to any such

offence they shall before starting be asked to sign, or make their mark to, the following:

- (a) unless the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applied, see *Annex C*, when they were so charged or informed they may be prosecuted:

*'I, ....., wish to make a statement. I want someone to write down what I say. I understand that I do not have to say anything but if I do not mention when questioned something which I later rely on in court it may harm my defence. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

- (b) if the restriction on drawing adverse inferences from silence applied when they were so charged or informed they may be prosecuted:

*'I, ....., wish to make a statement. I want someone to write down what I say. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

9. If, having already been charged with or informed they may be prosecuted for any offence, a person asks to make a statement which relates to any such offence they shall before starting, be asked to sign, or make their mark to:

*'I, ....., wish to make a statement. I want someone to write down what I say. I understand that I do not have to say anything. This statement may be given in evidence.'*

10. The person writing the statement must take down the exact words spoken by the person making it and must not edit or paraphrase it. Any questions that are necessary, e.g. to make it more intelligible, and the answers given must be recorded at the same time on the statement form.
11. When the writing of a statement is finished the person making it shall be asked to read it and to make any corrections, alterations or additions they want. When they have finished reading they shall be asked to write and sign or make their mark on the following certificate at the end of the statement:

*'I have read the above statement, and I have been able to correct, alter or add anything I wish. This statement is true. I have made it of my own free will.'*

12. If the person making the statement cannot read, or refuses to read it, or to write the above mentioned certificate at the end of it or to sign it, the person

taking the statement shall read it to them and ask them if they would like to correct, alter or add anything and to put their signature or make their mark at the end. The person taking the statement shall certify on the statement itself what has occurred.

## Annex E – Summary of Provisions Relating to Mentally Disordered and Otherwise Mentally Vulnerable People

1. If an officer has any suspicion, or is told in good faith, that a person of any age may be mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, or mentally incapable of understanding the significance of questions or their replies that person shall be treated as mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable for the purposes of this Code. *See paragraph 1.10.*
2. In the case of a person who is mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable, ‘the appropriate adult’ means:
  - (a) a relative, guardian or other person responsible for their care or custody;
  - (b) someone experienced in dealing with mentally disordered or mentally vulnerable people but who is not a police officer or employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board;
  - (c) failing these, some other responsible adult aged 18 or over who is not a police officer or employed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

*See paragraph 1.13(b) and Note 1D.*

3. If the detention of a person who is mentally vulnerable or appears to be suffering from a mental disorder is authorised by a review officer, *see paragraphs 14.1 and 14.2 and Notes for Guidance 14A and 14B*, the custody officer must as soon as practicable inform the appropriate adult of the grounds for detention and the person’s whereabouts, and ask the adult to come to the police station to see them. If the appropriate adult:
  - is already at the station when information is given as in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5 the information must be given in their presence
  - is not at the station when the provisions of paragraph 3.1 to 3.5 are complied with these provisions must be complied with again in their presence once they arrive.

*See paragraphs 3.15 to 3.16.*

4. If the appropriate adult, having been informed of the right to legal advice, considers legal advice should be taken, the provisions of section 6 apply as if the mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person had requested access to legal advice. *See paragraph 3.20 and Note E1.*

5. The custody officer must make sure a person receives appropriate clinical attention as soon as reasonably practicable if the person appears to be suffering from a mental disorder or in urgent cases immediately call the nearest forensic medical officer or an ambulance. It is not intended these provisions delay the transfer of a detainee to a place of safety under the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, Article 130 if that is applicable. If an assessment under that Order is to take place at a police station, the custody officer must consider whether a forensic medical officer should be called to conduct an initial clinical check on the detainee. *See paragraph 9.6 and 9.8.*
6. If a mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person is cautioned in the absence of the appropriate adult, the caution must be repeated in the appropriate adult's presence. *See paragraph 10.11.*
7. A mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person must not be interviewed or asked to provide or sign a written statement in the absence of the appropriate adult unless the provisions of paragraphs 11.2 or 11.11 to 11.13 apply. Questioning in these circumstances may not continue in the absence of the appropriate adult once sufficient information to avert the risk has been obtained. A record shall be made of the grounds for any decision to begin an interview in these circumstances. *See paragraphs 11.2, 11.9 and 11.11 to 11.13.*
8. If the appropriate adult is present at an interview, they shall be informed they are not expected to act simply as an observer and the purposes of their presence are to:
  - advise the interviewee
  - observe whether or not the interview is being conducted properly and fairly
  - facilitate communication with the interviewee*See paragraph 11.10.*
9. If the custody officer charges a mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person with an offence or takes such other action as is appropriate when there is sufficient evidence for a prosecution this must be done in the presence of the appropriate adult. The written notice embodying any charge must be given to the appropriate adult. *See PACE Code C Section 16.*

10. An intimate or strip search of a mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person may take place only in the presence of the appropriate adult of the same sex, unless the detainee specifically requests the presence of a particular adult of the opposite sex. A strip search may take place in the absence of an appropriate adult only in cases of urgency when there is a risk of serious harm to the detainee or others. *See Annex A, paragraphs 6 and 12(c).*
11. Particular care must be taken when deciding whether to use any form of approved restraints on a mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable person in a locked cell. *See paragraph 8.2.*

### Notes for guidance

- E1 The purpose of the provision at paragraph 3.20 is to protect the rights of a mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable detained person who does not understand the significance of what is said to them. If the detained person wants to exercise the right to legal advice, the appropriate action should be taken and not delayed until the appropriate adult arrives. A mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable detained person should always be given an opportunity, when an appropriate adult is called to the police station, to consult privately with a solicitor in the absence of the appropriate adult if they want.
- E2 Although people who are mentally disordered or otherwise mentally vulnerable are often capable of providing reliable evidence, they may, without knowing or wanting to do so, be particularly prone in certain circumstances to provide information that may be unreliable, misleading or self-incriminating. Special care should always be taken when questioning such a person, and the appropriate adult should be involved if there is any doubt about a person's mental state or capacity. Because of the risk of unreliable evidence, it is important to obtain corroboration of any facts admitted whenever possible.
- E3 Because of the risks referred to in Note E2, which the presence of the appropriate adult is intended to minimise, officers of superintendent rank or above should exercise their discretion to authorise the commencement of an interview in the appropriate adult's absence only in exceptional cases, if it is necessary to avert an immediate risk of serious harm. *See paragraphs 11.2, 11.11 to 11.13.*

## Annex F – Countries with which Bilateral Consular Conventions or Agreements Requiring Notification of the Arrest and Detention of their Nationals are in Force (as at 1 April 2003)

Armenia	Kazakhstan
Austria	Macedonia
Azerbaijan	Mexico
Belarus	Moldova
Belgium	Mongolia
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Norway
Bulgaria	Poland
Croatia	Romania
Cuba	Russia
Czech Republic	Slovak Republic
Denmark	Slovenia
Egypt	Spain
France	Sweden
Georgia	Tajikistan
German Federal Republic	Turkmenistan
Greece	Ukraine
Hungary	USA
Italy	Uzbekistan
Japan	Yugoslavia

## Annex G – Fitness to be Interviewed

1. This Annex contains general guidance to help police officers and forensic medical officers to assess whether a detainee might be at risk in an interview.
2. A detainee may be at risk in a interview if it is considered that:
  - (a) conducting the interview could significantly harm the detainee's physical or mental state;
  - (b) anything the detainee says in the interview about their involvement or suspected involvement in the offence about which they are being interviewed **might** be considered unreliable in subsequent court proceedings because of their physical or mental state.
3. In assessing whether the detainee should be interviewed, the following must be considered:
  - (a) how the detainee's physical or mental state might affect their ability to understand the nature and purpose of the interview, to comprehend what is being asked and to appreciate the significance of any answers given and make rational decisions about whether they want to say anything;
  - (b) the extent to which the detainee's replies may be affected by their physical or mental condition rather than representing a rational and accurate explanation of their involvement in the offence;
  - (c) how the nature of the interview, which could include particularly probing questions, might affect the detainee.
4. It is essential forensic medical officers who are consulted consider the functional ability of the detainee rather than simply relying on a medical diagnosis, e.g. it is possible for a person with severe mental illness to be fit for interview.
5. Forensic medical officers should advise on the need for an appropriate adult to be present, whether reassessment of the person's fitness for interview may be necessary if the interview lasts beyond a specified time, and whether a further specialist opinion may be required.
6. When forensic medical officers identify risks they should be asked to quantify the risks. They should inform the custody officer:

- whether the person's condition:
    - is likely to improve
    - will require or be amenable to treatment; and
  - indicate how long it may take for such improvement to take effect
7. The role of a forensic medical officer is to consider the risks and advise the custody officer of the outcome of that consideration. The forensic medical officer's determination and any advice or recommendations should be made in writing and form part of the custody record.
8. Once a forensic medical officer has provided that information, it is a matter for the custody officer to decide whether or not to allow the interview to go ahead and if the interview is to proceed, to determine what safeguards are needed. Nothing prevents safeguards being provided in addition to those required under the Code. An example might be to have a forensic medical officer present during the interview, in addition to an appropriate adult, in order constantly to monitor the person's condition and how it is being affected by the interview.

## Annex H – Detained Person: Observation List

1. If any detainee fails to meet any of the following criteria, a forensic medical officer or an ambulance must be called.
2. When assessing the level of rousability, consider:
  - Rousability - can they be woken?
    - go into the cell
    - call their name
    - shake gently
  - Response to questions - can they give appropriate answers to questions such as:
    - What's your name?
    - Where do you live?
    - Where do you think you are?
  - Response to commands - can they respond appropriately to commands such as:
    - Open your eyes!
    - Lift one arm, now the other arm!
3. Remember to take into account the possibility or presence of other illnesses, injury, or mental condition, a person who is drowsy and smells of alcohol may also have the following:
  - Diabetes
  - Epilepsy
  - Head injury
  - Drug intoxication or overdose
  - Stroke





This code has been issued by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland under the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 and laid before Parliament.

The code deals with the detention, treatment and questioning of persons by police officers arrested and detained under section 41 of, and Schedule 8 to, the Terrorism Act 2000. It provides a clear statement of the rights of the individual and the powers of the police.

Copies of the code must be readily available in all police stations for consultation by police officers, detained persons and their representatives and members of the public.

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